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## LEGISLATION OF THE FUTURE.

At this season, when we have just entered upon a new year, the mind, poised between the past and the future, is attracted, with almost equal force, towards retrospect and anticipation. But, while we fully admit the importance of studying accomplished facts and endeavouring to elicit the lessons they teach, we prefer, for the present, to look ahead, and try to ascertain what things legislative ought to be done, or are likely to be done, in this year 1869, rather than to brood over the efforts and the omissions, the successes and the failures, of the year just closed. Parliament, in the ensuing Session, will enter upon its work under more than ordinarily significant circumstances. It is a new Parliament, elected under a wider and more comprehensive suffrage than any Parliament ever chosen in Great Britain before. It has to guide it a new Ministry, composed of men of more earnest and reforming tendencies than any that have been at the head of affairs for many years. The majority of the members of the Commons' House are distinctly pledged to sustain that Ministry in carrying out several most important measures, and in accomplishing one thing in particular that will certainly be a great social revolution in itself, and may possibly be the beginning of other changes still more important. Moreover, from both Parliament and Ministers the people have formed large expectations; and, though performance may, and probably will, lag considerably in the rear of anticipation, it is reasonable to expect that the new ministerial and senatorial

brooms will make a clearance of at least a tolerably satisfactory quantity of the political dust that now clogs and cumbers the administrative State machine. In the circumstances a brief examination of the probable subjects of legislation in the future will neither be uninteresting nor unprofitable. Most prominent of all, of course, stands the question of the abolition of the State Church in Ireland; and on that topic the great conflicts of the Session will hinge. We may be sure that no effort will be spared to defeat the measure of justice to Irish Roman Catholics which Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues are pledged to introduce, and which they will, beyond question, use their best efforts to carry. But the work will not be easy. The friends of sectarian ascendancy, though in a minority in the House of Commons, are neither insignificant in numbers nor in influence; and they are, moreover, strong in a dogged determination to resist progress on the subject of religious equality, as they have resisted progress on all the great questions that have occupied and stirred men's minds in this country for many years past. But that their resistance will ultimately be futile on that, as on other matters, we may safely assume as certain. The utmost the friends of exclusive privilege can do is to obstruct and retard a settlement of the question; they will be powerless to defeat it. Disestablishment must come to the Episcopal Church of Ireland; and the questions that now ask determination are, How? and

What after? The first question we may safely set aside till we have the Government plan before us. Where the will to do the work so decidedly exists, the way will not be difficult to discover. The matters involved in the second question we have propounded perhaps require greater consideration; though here, too, we think, the course will be found to present fewer obstacles than some people seem to fancy. Several of our contemporaries have been putting their minds to sore—and it appears to us very unnecessary—travail, in order to frame schemes for the appropriation of the portion of the Irish ecclesiastical property that is to be reserved for the use of the adherents of the Established Church, and for the constitution of the society that shall represent that Church when it has ceased to be. Great difficulties, it is alleged, stand in the way of the constitution of such a society. First, we are told that it is impossible to tell who will form the free Episcopal Church in Ireland; next, that there is no authority competent to determine what shall be the doctrine and discipline of that Church; then, that some machinery must be devised by Parliament, not only for the constitution, but for the future Government of that body, of whomsoever it shall be composed. In fact, Parliament is asked, practically, to form a new Establishment on the ruins of the old one—with this difference, that whereas its members will henceforth derive no advantage, pecuniary or otherwise, from connection with the State, they shall yet submit to the



RESTORING STRAYED SHEEP: A CUSTOM OF THE NORTHERN MOORLANDS.





restraints necessarily implied by such a connection. Now, we cannot help thinking that all this difficulty-making and ingenious scheming is labour wasted. Upon the Protestant Episcopalians themselves, as it seems to us, devolve both the duty and the right to determine who they are, what shall be their system of ecclesiastical government, and who shall govern them in religious matters. All Parliament has to do in the affair is to appoint trustees to manage the funds destined for those who shall constitute the successors of the present Irish Church until they shall have themselves settled their system of government, and appointed properly authorised persons to intronise with the share of the Church property that is to be theirs. The temporary trustees, of course, would pay or compound for the stipends of existing incumbents, maintain the Church fabrics, and perform other necessary functions till relieved of the duty imposed upon them. But to disestablish and disendow the Irish Church, and yet to restrain her freedom of action, or pretend to dictate the constitution she shall afterwards adopt, and appoint the parties by whom she shall be governed, would be at once unjust and beyond the legitimate functions of Parliament. To the Irish Episcopalians, we repeat, belongs the right of framing their own constitution and appointing their own ecclesiastical rulers; and on them must be devolved the duty of doing so. They would not be members of a free church were it otherwise; and we cannot believe that they would be so enamoured of slavery as to sue for State restraint after they had been deprived of State pay, position, and privilege. Nor need any grave difficulties stand in the way of their framing a constitution and system of government for themselves. There are models for them to follow in the Episcopal Churches of Scotland, America, and the colonies, all of which are voluntary associations governed by laws of their own devising. So also are the Free and the United Presbyterian Churches of Scotland and Dissenting bodies of religionists everywhere. Let the Episcopalians of Ireland go and do as these several associations have done; and, if they prove incapable or unwilling to do so, and that within a reasonable time, let the funds they would enjoy be added to the residue of the Irish Church property and devoted to like purposes.

Of other Government measures, the re-organisation of the great administrative departments of the public service, with a view to increased efficiency and greater economy, will claim a foremost place in the attention of Parliament and the public. That there is ample room for improvement in all these departments there cannot be a doubt; and there seems as little reason to question the disposition of Ministers to undertake the task of accomplishing the necessary reforms. Some changes have been effected already, short as the period is that has elapsed since the present Government entered upon office, and others are said to be in contemplation. The Admiralty is to be remodelled, the Civil Service is to be reformed, and the War Department is to undergo review. Some offices to which large salaries and small duties are attached—such as the Commissionership of Inland Revenue recently held by Mr. James Disraeli, the brother of the late Premier—are to be abolished, others are to be amalgamated, and a complete re-organisation of the whole Civil Service is to be effected. Such, at least, is what we are told; and, considering who are the men now at the helm of affairs, and what are the pledges they have made to the country, we are entitled to believe that the assurances given are worthy of credence.

But there are other matters, besides political changes and administrative improvements, that call for, and will no doubt receive, due attention during the approaching Session. Social and legal ameliorations cannot be overlooked; and in the notices of motion already given in the House of Commons, we have a forecast of the tone and character of the questions likely to be broached by independent members, or which, at their instigation, may be taken up by Government. In the first place, there are the defects of the late Reform Bill to be made good; and in this direction Mr. Sheridan leads the way with a motion for the abolition of the ratepaying clauses and the permissive restoration of the compounding system. On these points the entire Liberal party, including Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues, are pledged to take action; so we may expect soon to see the last remnants of the "vital principles" of Mr. Disraeli's Reform Bill swept away, and real household suffrage established as the law of the land. Then experiences during the late election so plainly demonstrated the necessity of some effective protection being provided for the free action of electors in giving their votes, that the ballot question is certain to come prominently to the front; and if, as is probable, it be supported by the Government, it is not unlikely that secret voting may be the law ere another general election takes place. The great question of education, too, will necessarily, with Mr. Forster as Vice-President of the Council, and Mr. Bruce as Home Secretary, become a part of the Ministerial programme, and, we may reasonably hope, receive a settlement on a broad and comprehensive basis—a settlement which, though it may not be theoretically perfect (a thing, perhaps, in the present state of the public mind not to be looked for), will yet do away with the anomalies of the present system, and bring the means of at least elementary instruction within the reach of every child in the land. We trust that on this vital matter there will be no more quibbling about the difference between "education" and "instruction," or twaddling as to the necessity for systematic training, and so

forth; but that the means of acquiring the elements of education—reading, writing, and arithmetic—will be provided for every one; so that all subjects of the Crown shall have an opportunity of obtaining, as it were, the tools with which to work in further educating themselves, and be thereby enabled to develop their own capacities and train their own minds, with the aid of whatever other helps circumstances may place within their reach. So long as the rudiments of education are denied, it is worse than mockery to twaddle, as Earl Beauchamp did the other day, about the importance of high culture and careful training.

Among other topics to be brought before the House we may mention (though we cannot now discuss them) the amendment of the game laws and the law of trespass, on which Mr. Hardcastle proposes to take the initiative; the assimilation of the laws regulating succession to real property to those that now obtain as to personalty, to which Mr. Locke King intends to call attention; the laws of bankruptcy; and the system on which we deal with the criminal classes, juvenile and mature. These and other matters, all of which are of vital importance to the well-being of the State, will come under discussion; and upon some of them, at least, we may hope that legislative action will be taken, notwithstanding the opposition such proposals as the amendment of the game laws and the law of succession to real property are likely to encounter from the Conservative, privilege-defending, landlord element in the House. On the whole, a fair programme of work is already foreshadowed for the Session that commences in February, and it will be for the country to see that the representatives they have sent to Parliament act up to the pledges they have given and the professions they have made. On one thing the country may well congratulate itself, and therefrom derive hope for the future: legislation and government have ceased to be little better than a jest, as they were in the days of Lord Palmerston, or a huge system of trickery and jobbing, as they were in the hands of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli. We now have earnest men at the head of affairs, who mean what they say and say what they mean, and who, moreover, will not only gird themselves up for vigorous work, but will be sure to inspire the whole Legislature with their own honest, straightforward, industrious spirit.

#### RESTORING STRAYED SHEEP: A MOORLAND CUSTOM.

THE extensive range of hills which, commencing in Derbyshire continues along the borders of Cheshire, Lancashire, and Yorkshire, northwards, and forming what is commonly known as the "backbone of England," mainly consists of wild, bleak moorlands of immense extent. Where the sides of these moors border on the valleys the descent is nearly always precipitous, often studded with rocks fallen from the extreme verges above, whose gaunt and rugged edges, worn by the storms of ages, occasionally assume weird and fantastic forms and representations of gigantic fastnesses. The desert wastes on the high grounds above are flat and dreary, and their common name of "moor" is an apt rendering of their yielding and deceptive elasticity to the foot. Here Nature reigns supreme: no trace of the hand of man is visible. Here alone is heard the crowing of the grouse, the melancholy wail of the golden plover, or the scream of the curlew; the only sound connecting the wilderness with man and his wants being the bleating of wandering and solitary sheep. Although these moorlands afford pasturage (if so it may be termed) or feeding-ground for large numbers of these animals, they are seldom seen together in any considerable flocks, because of the large extent of territory over which they are at liberty to roam. It is not to be wondered at that strayed sheep are common, and for the restoration of these wanderers to their proper owners a primitive and honest custom has existed from unknown periods.

Twice in the year, at a place sufficiently central and accessible, a meeting of shepherds takes place; and this meeting each shepherd or sheep-farmer attends, bringing with him those sheep which he has found on his own moor, amongst his own flocks, and to which, by the absence of his special distinctive mark or brand, or the presence of that of some other person, he knows he cannot lay claim as his own.

On the old turnpike-road, over which, in former days, the coaches rattled from Sheffield to Manchester, and at about its highest and bleakest part, there is a lonely public-house. Around it are the ruins of other houses, which in the old coaching days defied the elements, which here let loose their fury. Through the Woodhead tunnel, almost under their very foundations, the iron horse tears along, and may almost be said to have not only rendered them tenanted but to have toppled down their empty walls. This place is called Saltersbrook; and within a few hundred yards is the junction of Derbyshire, Cheshire, and Yorkshire. This is the rendezvous for the shepherds on these occasions. In summer the meeting takes place in May, and in winter in November. In the early morning the shepherds may be seen wending their way towards the place, driving their strayed ones before them. On this spot congregate the shepherds from the upper woodlands of Derbyshire, the moors on the source of the Derwent, the vale of Longendale, Greenfield, Holme, and surrounding places ranging within a circuit of twelve or fifteen miles. The number of sheep brought together is often considerable. Accompanying the shepherds are their inseparable companions—their dogs, whose sagacity is such that often during the business of selection these animals will forestall their masters, and pick out with unerring certainty the lost members of their flocks.

This labour over, there is still another—the customary dinner, a *sine quâ non* equally with bucolic as with aldermanic and philanthropic minds when met together. The limited space available in a roadside inn for employing the knives and forks of some sixty or seventy people—hungry, of course—of necessity makes two or three sittings-down necessary. Occasionally, the amity existing between the various members of the canine race is disturbed by struggles for a stray bone, or some other cause, and a snarling passage of arms, or teeth, takes place; but peace is soon restored by the voices and ash-staves of their masters, the application of the latter being always conclusive when the former fails. By the time the business of eating is over—remembering that it is the month of November—the day is growing old, and a dreary walk across these moors is not a pleasant feat of pedestrianism on a dark night. The principles of the total-abstainers find little favour among these shepherds; and, well fortified within by both liquids and solids, the various members of the assembly gradually begin to depart, taking with them those woolly wanderers that were lost but are now found.

All honour to these humble and worthy men, and their time-honoured custom, whose origin, lost in obscurity, still has, at its very foundation, honesty, and goodwill, and duty towards their neighbour: a lesson, in fact, in their peaceful, practical, everyday life on the sublime duty of "doing unto others as they would that others should do unto them."

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

The Session of the Senate and the Legislative Body will be opened on the 18th inst.

The French Government is without an official journal and without authority to start the one it had projected—at all events with the name originally selected. The Paris Tribunal of Commerce has decided that the proprietors of the existing *Moniteur Universel* have a copyright in the title, which would be invaded were the Government to bring out the *Moniteur Officiel* it proposes to publish. The new official organ was to have appeared yesterday (Friday).

### SPAIN.

Spain is quieter. The late deplorable events appear to have had a sobering effect on all parties. There seems a disposition among both Republicans and Monarchists to keep the peace while strictly maintaining their respective programmes. Caballero de Rodas, with the army, is at Cordova, and the South is tranquil. Provision has been made for the prompt payment of the coupons of the debt due in January next.

Conflicting accounts are published as to the results of the late municipal elections. On one side it is claimed that the Republicans have an overwhelming majority, while on the other this is denied; and it is stated that the Democrats, hopeless of establishing a Republic, have determined to support General Espartero for King. This course, as Espartero has no family, would probably only be a postponement of the decision as to which form of government should be adopted. Republican ideas, however, appear to be making progress among the people, especially in the towns.

It is asserted that the Government intends to resort to fresh measures of economy by alterations in the territorial jurisdiction of the different administrative bodies, thereby effecting the abolition of the greater part of the provincial governorships.

### TURKEY AND GREECE.

The latest telegrams relative to the Cretan affair are more tranquillising. It is announced both from Berlin and from Paris that the conference will very shortly meet—on the 2nd, according to one paper. The Paris *Patrie* says the bases of the discussion are settled. The Berlin *Provincial Correspondence* is not quite so reassuring. It declares that no definite proposals have been made beforehand, but it hopes for the best from the goodwill of the Powers. In the mean time, if a telegram from Constantinople is to be believed, events are in favour of the diplomatists, for it is announced that all Crete has made its submission. This may incline the Porte to listen to the British and Austrian representatives, who are urging the inconvenience of expelling the Greek pilots who know the mouth of the Danube. The Enosis has not been sunk, as had been reported; she is detained in Syria, pending the decision of the Greek tribunals.

### ROUMANIA.

Above twenty ships carrying Greek fugitives have arrived from Turkish territory in Roumanian ports. They have received permission to stay, provided they implicitly obey the law of the land and pledge themselves to abstain from all political manifestations.

### THE UNITED STATES.

A Presidential proclamation pardons all Confederates heretofore unpardoned, including Jefferson Davis, General Lee, General Breckenridge, Mr. Benjamin, Mr. Mason, and Mr. Shidell. Congress will probably not recognise this, but it will relieve those named from legal penalties.

Mr. Johnson has sent the Senate a Message, declining to furnish copies of the correspondence respecting the Alabama claims, on the ground that its publication was inexpedient.

Judge Underwood, of Richmond, has delivered a decision to the effect that the proceedings of any Court are null and void if any of its officers have held office under the Southern Confederacy.

Colonel Wynkoop, the Indian agent of Dacotah, declares that the recent attack upon the Cheyenne villages was an unprovoked massacre, as the Indians were friendly, and on their way to the reservations.

### THE BRAZILS.

According to the latest accounts from the seat of war in South America, the Paraguayans, who are so frequently defeated and driven back—on paper—and who, by every rule of probability and arithmetic, should have been utterly annihilated long ago, have again turned to bay and inflicted a sharp defeat on their eager enemies, the Brazilians. In an assault on Villeta, the position to which Lopez had retreated after his evacuation of Humaitá, the allied forces have, it seems, been repulsed, with an admitted loss of 1500 men. The defeat was, in all likelihood, a much more serious matter than we shall ever learn, since all our accounts come from the beaten side; but whether it was a disaster or only a reverse, one conclusion is irresistible—that the Paraguayan war retains the same features which it showed two years ago. Letters from a Paraguayan source state that the American Minister, Mr. McMahon, is charged with the task of offering American mediation between the belligerents with the assent of M. Sarmiento, the President of the Argentine Republic. It was said that the Emperor of Brazil would withdraw his representative from Buenos Ayres.

### ST. DOMINGO.

Intelligence from San Domingo announces that the revolutionary forces have been disbanded, and that the revolt against the authority of President Baez has been abandoned.

### NEW ZEALAND.

Advices from New Zealand state that the rebel Maoris have committed frightful atrocities. Fifty Europeans, with their families, have been massacred. The Government is accused of being lamentably incompetent. Recruits are being enrolled in Victoria to assist in quelling the rebellion.

THE GRAND ORANGE LODGE OF IRELAND has passed a resolution condemning the members of the brotherhood who voted at the last election for candidates pledged to disestablish the Irish Church, and directing their expulsion from the institution. At the same time all Orangemen who are engaged on "anti-Protestant and Radical newspapers" are at once to cease their connection with the society.

LIVES SAVED FROM SHIPWRECK IN 1868.—The year which is now closing will long be remembered as one of the stormiest on record. It is, however, satisfactory to find that the year will also be well remembered for the great exertions which have been put forth to save shipwrecked persons. It appears that during the past twelve months the boats of the Royal National Life-Boat Institution have been instrumental in saving, during boisterous weather, the lives of 570 persons, being the crews of distressed vessels on the coasts of the British Isles, in addition to twenty-four vessels saved from destruction. During the same period the Life-Boat Institution granted rewards for saving 259 lives by fishing and other boats, making a grand total of 829 lives saved mainly through its instrumentality. In the same period the crews of the life-boats of the society, at a very large expense, have either assembled or put off in reply to signals of distress 150 times to ships not eventually requiring their services. It often happened that on these occasions the life-boat crews had incurred much risk and exposure throughout stormy days and nights. The number of lives saved either by the life-boats of the institution, or by special exertions for which it has granted rewards since its formation, is 17,800, for which service ninety gold medals, 792 silver medals, and £28,906 in cash, have been given as rewards. When we remember that nearly every life saved by life-boats has been rescued under perilous circumstances, it will at once be seen what great benefit has been conferred by the Life-Boat Institution, not only on the poor men themselves and on their country, but also on their wives and children, who would otherwise be widows and orphans. Since the beginning of the present year the institution has spent £18,813 on its 194 life-boat stations on the coasts of England, Scotland, and Ireland; and, since its first establishment, in 1824, it has expended £212,820 on its life-boat stations. We would strongly urge on all who recognise the sacredness of human life the duty, and even the privilege, to help forward the life-boat work—a work which has hitherto been manifestly blessed by Providence, and which has brought relief to many thousands of men who, instead of being this very day valuable members of the community, would have been long ago engulfed in the raging waves of the tempest, leaving, in many cases, widows and orphans to suffer not only the misery of bereavement but the pangs of destitution.



## NORTH OF CHINA.

CONSUL MEADOWS—having been seven years at Newchwang, and spent three months recently in a journey into the northern Manchurian provinces and the neighbouring portion of Eastern Mongolia, a region never before visited by an Englishman—has sent to the Foreign Office in his report this year an historical and descriptive account of the people of the district which receives its imports through the port at which he is stationed, and sends thither its exports. This district of country is bounded on the south by the Yellow Sea, the Chih-Le Gulf, and the Great Wall; on the east by the Yaluh, which separates it from Corea, and by the Usuri, which separates it from the portion of the Russian seaboard territory that lies south of the Amoor; on the north by the Amoor, and on the west by the King-Gan mountain range. The race connected with this great district and neighbouring countries, the East Asian race, have for two thousand years recognised one Suzerain, the Hwang-Te, called by western foreigners the Emperor of China; but he is not merely Sovereign of the Chinese nation. He is supreme also in religious or sacerdotal affairs, so far as Confucianism deals with these; and his supremacy is acknowledged even in the prevalent idolatries of Taoism and Buddhism, on whose idols and temples he confers highly-prized honorary distinctions. He is "the Son of Heaven," the divinely-commissioned representative on earth of the supreme heavenly Power. The Hwang-Te has the right of nominating his successor; but the nominee is bound to secure peace and plenty to the people by good government, in accordance with the principles laid down in the sacred books; and should he fail to do so that fact is regarded as a proof that Heaven has withdrawn the Divine commission from him. The political significance of the Manchooks, a numerically small nation, inhabiting a region bound up by severe frosts four or five months of the year, rests in the fact that for the last two centuries the Hwang-Te has been, as he is now, a member of one and the same Manchoo family, and that no dynasty of Hwang-Tes has had more complete possession of the actual governing power. The family has a legendary origin in an immaculate-conceived personage, the son of a "heavenly virgin," who appeared at Ning-Koota, on the north of the Long White Mountains, before the time of Ghenghis Khan. The subjugation of China Proper to Manchoo sway has reacted on that people. The bulk of the Manchoo nation migrated into China, and the Chinese natives of Shan-Tung and Chi-Le proceeded into the western parts of Manchoo and Eastern Mongolia, and settled there as traders, artificers, and agriculturists. A sort of finishing-blow has been given to the Manchooks as a distinct nation by recent large draughtings of troops to oppose the Taepings and later rebel bodies in China Proper. "Hundreds go away," say the old people, "and, after a number of years, twelve or fifteen come back." The wonderful success of the Manchoo nation 200 years ago has, in short, led to their being nearly merged in the Chinese. Manchoo will never again be the language of Manchoo. With regard to Eastern Mongolia, the Consul notices that, except, perhaps, in the almost waterless central portion, the people, though still only pastoral, have ceased to be nomads; and the residences of the Dukes and Princes of Eastern Mongolia are spacious stone and brick mansions, some of them surpassing the country seats of wealthy Chinese landed proprietors and the villas of mandarins in Chinese cities. The residence of the Duke of the Northern Koros, near the left bank of the Nouni, occupies (buildings and courts) some five or six acres of ground. The "Palisade" boundary, one line of which separates Manchoo from Eastern Mongolia, no longer exists as such, the wooden palisading having long since disappeared, only traces of a ditch being here and there left. The port of Newchwang, at which the British Consulate is established, lies on the left bank of the tidal river Leon, a few miles above its mouth. The place opened to British trade by treaty was the "city" of Newchwang, situate on a small un navigable tributary of the Hwan, the chief eastern affluent of the Leon; but on its being found inaccessible by water, the Consulate was established at the port, and no foreigners reside at the city. The population of the port is estimated at from 50,000 to 60,000. It is the coolest and healthiest of ports or places open to foreign residence in the dominions of the Hwang-Te, being superior in those respects to Tien-Tsin and Peking. It is calculated that if moored in tiers, as at Shanghai, about 500 foreign vessels could lie and take in cargoes at one time in the river reach in front of the town and foreign settlement. The anchorage is well sheltered and safe, the depth varying from 24 ft. to 50 ft. at low water; but pilots give 17 ft. as the maximum of loading to insure a certainty of passing over the bar. This port is, by its situation, the only natural sea outlet and inlet for the products and wants of a district which can hardly contain less than 15,000,000 people, who are yearly acquiring an increasing taste for foreign manufactures, and are able to pay for them by a surplus produce also annually increasing by the opening of new lands to cultivation by an agricultural population continually augmented by emigration from northern China. Moukden, the old capital, (and still the capital of the southern province) situated near the right bank of the Hwan, is the largest city in Manchoo; the Consul estimates the population at not less than 200,000. It is 120 miles from the port of Newchwang. The inner city he found surrounded by finer walls than any Chinese city he has seen, with the exception of Peking. Chuen-Chang, known to foreigners as Kirin, 390 miles from the port of Newchwang, is the capital of the north-easterly Manchurian province of Kirin. It is on the left bank of the Upper Sungari. The population is about 60,000. One characteristic of the place is the abundance of pinewood of large size floated down the river from the higher parts of the Long White Mountains. It is even used as paving for the streets. On a hill three miles from Kirin city stands a temple on which is a tablet inscribed, "The God of the Long White Mountain," so placed that a worshipper in front of it faces in the direction of the distant highest ridges of that mountain range; and here the military governor of the province comes annually in state, and worships and sacrifices to the god of the mountains. Kwan-Ching-Tse, 330 miles from the port of Newchwang, and situated on the left bank of the (there un navigable) Etung, is a great land entrepôt for collection from and distribution to the northern provinces of Manchoo and north-eastern Mongolia. It is a rapidly-rising place, with a very busy commercial population, not less than 50,000. Various cities on or near the lower Sungari and the upper part of the Nouni consume European articles imported through Newchwang, and thence conveyed by Chinese and Mongols to the intermediary mart of Kwan-Ching-Tse, to which last place British merchants trading with the interior from Newchwang have, in the first instance, to direct their attention. The import of merchandise at Newchwang, in 1867, amounted in value to £1,030,399; of which foreign articles represent £754,581, and Chinese the rest. Malwa opium stands for £487,384 in the foreign list; the chief other items being cotton and woollen piece goods and iron. The exports were of the value of £811,380, being chiefly peas, beans, and bean-cake, for middle and southern China.

NOVEL APPLICATION OF GAS.—Mr. James Allison Hogg, gas engineer, Edinburgh, has discovered a method of producing intense light with coal gas by mixing it with atmospheric air. The mixture of gases is lighted after passing through a tissue of iridio-platina wires at a determined pressure. In a few seconds the metal becomes heated up to a white heat, the flame disappears, and an intense white light is the result. A large picture has been taken by its aid on prepared photographic paper. The light will burn in a gale of wind without any protection round it, and a downpour of rain will not affect it.

THE EDYSTONE LIGHTHOUSE.—Owing to the boisterous weather prevailing in the English Channel the Trinity tender at Plymouth has not been able to communicate with the Edystone Lighthouse for the past eight weeks. One of the lightkeepers has during the whole of that time been in waiting to go off to relieve the keeper whose turn it is to be ashore. Several attempts have been made by the tender to land him at the lighthouse, but without success. The tender has been able to run within hailing distance of the rock, but the terrific sea running over it has rendered nearer approach impossible. The lightkeepers board themselves, but have in store at the lighthouse a supply of Government provisions provided for such an emergency as has thus been created.

## THE INSURRECTION IN CADIZ.

SINCE the events by which Cadiz rendered itself remarkable in September last, the recent insurrection in that city is the most important episode in the Spanish revolution, Alcolea not excepted. Alcolea determined the downfall of a Government already all but overthrown; but Cadiz, the first to support Juan Prim, has also been the first to set his Government at defiance and to exhibit the strength of that armed militia which, instituted at the commencement of the revolution as a balance to the ancient military influence, was naturally looked to by the Democratic party as its safeguard against any return to the old system.

Although the task of sifting the truth from the many various and contradictory reports received from actors on both sides presents no small difficulty, we believe the following account to be substantially correct, while the telegrams dispatched from Madrid have often contained much which investigation on the spot has proved to be erroneous.

On Thursday, Dec. 3, the workmen employed by Government at Puerto Santa Maria, a considerable town on the Bay of Cadiz, began to clamour for an increase of wages. The Alcalde, or Mayor, in consequence, communicated with the Governor of Cadiz, Don Alcalá Zamorra, who the next day—the people still maintaining the same hostile attitude, and the militia displaying no very great zeal on the side of the Government—deemed this a fit opportunity to proceed to the predetermined disarmament of the militia, and sent orders to the Mayor to publish an edict requiring the militia to deliver up their arms within three hours. He at the same time sent to Jerez for a battalion of Cazadores de Madrid, the only force at the disposal of the Mayor being about seventy carabinieri. That night the Governor himself proceeded to Puerto to superintend the execution of the edict. The next morning he was conferring with the municipality, when intelligence was brought to him that the people were raising a barricade. The Alcalde, with some Cazadores, at once proceeded to the spot, and addressing the people, required that they should lay down their arms. This provoked a discharge of musketry from the barricade, and a sharp fight ensued, which lasted only five minutes, but resulted in the dispersion of the rioters, the capture of their arms, and a few killed and wounded.

In the afternoon of the same day the Governor learnt from the captains of two small vessels that a conflict had begun in Cadiz between the troops and the people, at which he was so alarmed that he at once telegraphed to Madrid resigning his command.

On that morning the people in Cadiz, imagining that the troops were being put in motion for Puerto, began to show signs of hostility; at any rate, General Peralta determined on ordering some companies of artillery to publish the edict for the disarmament of the militia.

Somewhere about half-past two in the afternoon of Saturday, the 5th, as they were proceeding along the wall above the sea gate, proclaiming the edict, a shot was fired from one of the houses facing them. The Colonel, stepping forward, addressed the people, stating that if they fired at the troops he should have to give orders to fire on them; and then, turning to the troops, he ordered them to prepare. The people answered him by a discharge from the windows; whereupon, throwing up his arms, he fell, mortally wounded, two or three of his men falling at the same time, among them the tall drum-major at their head.

The troops carried their Colonel behind a kind of hut, and at once commenced firing. Like lightning, that cry so delightful to the ears of the Spanish lower classes, "To arms!" flew through the city. The flat roofs, towers, and windows of all the houses, and the corners of the streets near the scene of action, screened armed men; the gates were closed, the rail outside the town was torn up, and the telegraph wires were cut. All through the afternoon and night the firing continued; but the troops—perhaps because the Governor was absent and they expected his return, or perhaps because they were unacquainted with the extent and resources of the insurrection—seem to have made no very determined efforts on that day, for it is probable that, had they at that time done so, the whole affair might have been suppressed.

The next morning in Seville was to be devoted to a funeral ceremony got up by the Democratic Committee in honour of twenty-seven men who were shot in that city, by order of the Government, in 1857; but an announcement appeared in the local paper, the *Andalucia*, stating that, owing to the gravity of the events which had occurred in the province of Cadiz, the ceremony was postponed. No details were given; but the next morning it was announced by Government that the troops had been successful, and that all was ended—a statement which accompanied the first news of the insurrection in the foreign papers. Its falsity soon became known, and that night there was a slight panic, owing to a rumour, entirely devoid of foundation, to the effect that fighting had begun in Triana, a suburb of Seville.

On Tuesday, Dec. 8, the Captain-General of Andalusia, Don Antonio Caballero y Fernandez de Rodas, the same who at Alcolea contributed so greatly to the defeat of Novaliches by exploding some of his ammunition and dispersing his cavalry with shell, determined to proclaim a state of siege in the province; but he was ultimately induced to abandon so extreme a measure on a deputation from the municipality representing to him that such a course would be certain to provoke a rising in Seville. Another panic was caused, however, by his proceeding with Senor Montejó to address the people in the principal street and square, coffee-houses and clubs being deserted and the shops and theatres closed.

The ensuing day a decree from Madrid organised an army acting in Andalusia, De Rodas being appointed to its command, and General Makenna, in his place, to the Captaincy-General; while some 6000 or 7000 men were dispatched in the direction of Cadiz, and the armoured fleet, under Antequera, ordered round from Cartagena. The next day De Rodas started for Jerez, and, having sent on 300 men to repair the rails, was able, on Friday, the 11th, to move his army down to various points on the bay in the immediate vicinity of Cadiz.

We must now return to what was occurring within the walls of that city. Cadiz may be considered as a quadrilateral, its four sides facing the cardinal points; it is surrounded with walls and batteries, washed almost on every side by the sea, being only connected with the mainland at the south-east corner by a narrow strip of land about four miles in length, along which run the road and the railway. At this south-east corner, on each side of the land gate, are the barracks of San Roque and Santa Elena; towards the north-east corner is a strong and lofty building, the custom-house; midway between the two a spacious square, called the Plaza San Juan de Dios. On one side of this square, the commercial centre of Cadiz, and usually crowded with sailors, porters, boatmen, &c., in every variety of picturesque costume, is the sea gate, pierced through the town wall, and communicating with the mole. On the opposite side stands the Town-House, a handsome building with a classical colonnade and portico; next to it a hospital; while the other two sides are occupied by stalls for the sale of fruit and provisions, behind which rise lofty houses with their flat roofs, surrounded by a parapet, as is universal in Cadiz. When the sun rose on Sunday, the 6th, the relative position of the two parties was as follows:—The troops, altogether about 8000 strong, held the barracks we have already named, thus commanding the land gate; but, as the suburb of San José, just outside, was occupied by the insurgents, the gate was available to neither party. The troops held the custom-house, which they made their head-quarters, thus keeping possession of the sea gate and a gate near the custom-house, called the Seville-gate. Two forts—San Sebastian and Santa Catalina—with the park of artillery, were in the possession of the military; but, being isolated and only slightly garrisoned, they took little part in the conflict.

The Town-House formed the head-quarters of the militia, among whom one Saigoches, and also Junco, a master tailor, seem to have acted prominent parts. It had been abandoned by the municipal authorities, who had taken refuge in the custom-house. In the basement of the Town-House the insurgents placed a 36-pounder cannon, directed towards the sea gate; while at the left of the building, across the ends of the streets, which there opened on to

the square, were two barricades, each armed with a similar gun; and on the right a very strong and extensive two-sided barricade, constructed of barrels and crates filled with stones, which likewise was provided with two guns of similar calibre, pointed across the square. The converging fire of five guns could thus be brought to bear on any troops attempting to assault the Town-House, for the square was much narrower at the sea-gate end than at the other. These guns, too, which proved frightfully destructive to the troops, were loaded with every variety of old iron—nails, screws, locks, keys, flat irons, and scraps of every kind—of which heaps were afterwards seen in the basement of the Town-House.

Besides this, every street which opened towards the walls and most of the great thoroughfares contained loopholed barricades from 5 ft. to 6 ft. high, constructed of paving-stones, or occasionally of barrels of cement, bales of brown paper, or sacks of coffee, &c. Stones were carried up to the roofs of the houses, and two 8-inch guns were in position on the south side, but do not seem to have been fired, the principal attacks being made on the east side of the town. The troops in the custom-house directed their efforts against the houses opposite the custom-house and the streets leading from it into the town. They succeeded in possessing themselves of several of the houses; but in the streets they seem, from the marks on the walls, to have been uniformly unsuccessful, never penetrating far up them, and, from the immense number of marks of rifle-balls, either they must have fired very wildly or fought most desperately. It was in one of these attacks that General Peralta received a serious wound in the foot, which, later, compelled him to transfer the command to General Laserna.

The troops from the barracks endeavoured to storm the barricades on the square and to take the Town-House, which they cannonaded from the wall with shot, shell, and grape, the marks and destructive effects of which missiles, together with innumerable rifle-shots, are visible over the entire façade of the Town-House and most of the other buildings on the square. The trees which grew there, now torn by grape, present a most curious spectacle, as do also the richly-furnished and decorated rooms of the municipality, the statues, busts, clocks, chairs, lustres, writing-tables, &c., being perforated and destroyed by the numerous projectiles that entered through the windows.

The most fatal attack was that made on the 6th by the Cazadores de Madrid, who, landing from Trocadero, came through the sea gate, and rushing on, notwithstanding the fire of the cannon, succeeded in crossing the first barricades; but, being unable to take those behind them, were killed, almost to a man, between the two. It is said that of 125, not twenty-five escaped. Throughout the next morning the fighting was unabated; the troops were reinforced by 300 men of the regiment Barcelona, and a vessel in the harbour commenced a bombardment, which, however, was discontinued, owing, it is said, to the energetic intervention of the American and the other Consuls.

Several attempts had been made by vessels in the harbour to furnish food and ammunition to the troops through the Seville gate; but, this being perceived by the insurgents, they were stopped by the fire from the houses. The insurgents, too, were running short of cartridges; but in the afternoon they succeeded in possessing themselves of the wall and sea gate, the centre of their enemy's line, thus dividing the forces opposed to them into two, gaining possession of the mole and relieving the Town-House from the cannonade to which it had been hitherto exposed. That evening the firing diminished, and next morning the flag for a parley was hoisted at the custom-house. A truce was then agreed upon to bury the dead, during which, also, those so inclined were to be allowed to leave the city, a permission afterwards limited by the insurgents to women, children, and old people, and of which it is said some 20,000 persons availed themselves. In the meanwhile, too, the Consuls, who till then with some other foreigners had been kept in the city as a safeguard against bombardment, made strenuous efforts to arrange matters and save the place from further bloodshed. The Government willingly continued the suspension of hostilities from day to day, thinking it prudent to remain passive until the preparations of General de Rodas were completed.

Thus it was that the truce lasted four days, until Caballero de Rodas, being quite ready to assault the place with an overwhelming force by land and sea, sent into the city on Saturday, the 12th, a proclamation stating the means at his disposal, but at the same time promising personal safety to the insurgents should they lay down their arms within a limited time in the places he appointed; if they refused, it would not be his fault if it became necessary that he should carry out the disagreeable duty imposed on him. The result was a deputation from the insurgents, accompanied by the United States Consul, accepting the terms. The following day the army entered, and on the Monday the people began to return to their homes.

That evening the Plaza San Antonio presented a very animated scene. The army had put on a different appearance from what it had a week before; four bands of music were playing in succession at the four corners of the square—a strange contrast with the great gap left by a bombshell in the side of one of the houses there.

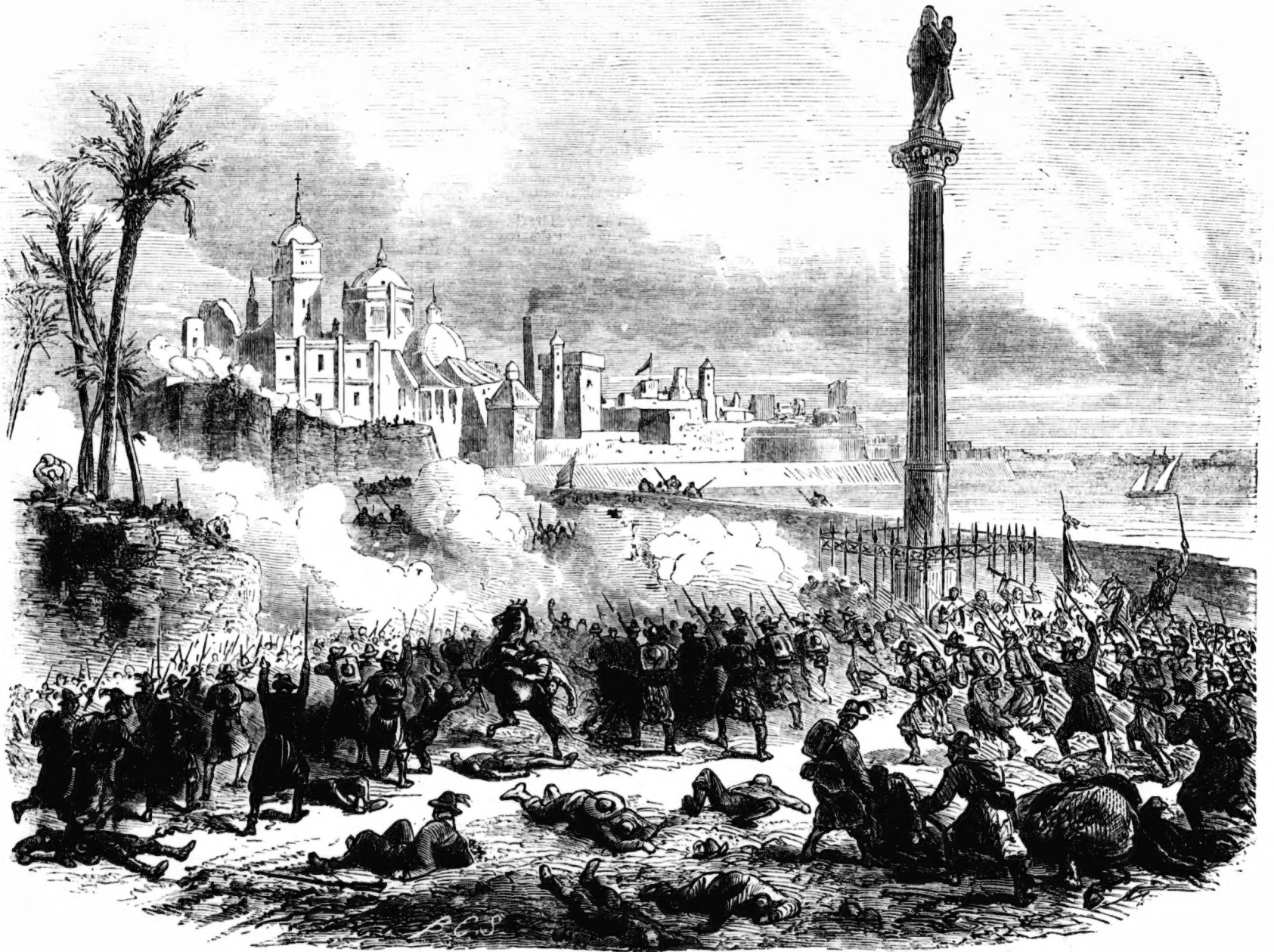
One of the old placards, "Viva la Republica! Pena de Muerte al Ladrón!" ("Long live the Republic! Death to Thieves!") still hung unobserved in a back street; but barricades were being fast pulled down, the broken glass and old iron were being swept away in the Town-House, while shot-marks were being plastered up by numerous workmen. It may be asked, What is the aspect of the population; of those who fought on the roof-tops and behind barricades? Sad and gloomy? Certainly not. The light in which they see it all is this. The troops wished to disarm men who had a right to carry arms; they fought; in every encounter they beat the troops; they yielded to the force of circumstances; the rest of Spain did not rise, but still they are, in their own estimation, victors.

There is a very dark side of the affair, the eighty or a hundred Gadianians (three of them women) and about 400 soldiers that it has hurried to the burial-field.

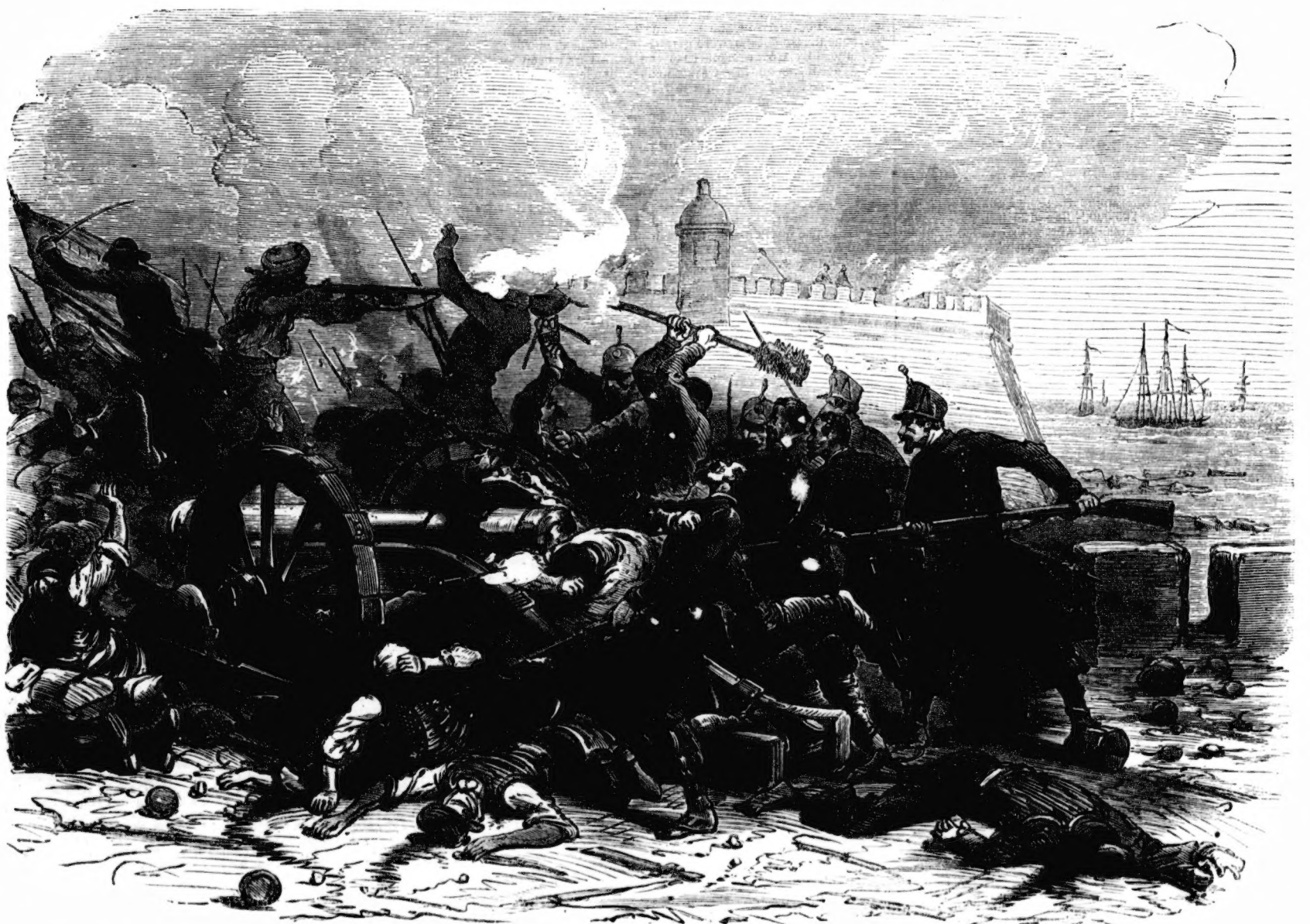
AN AMERICAN OFFERTORY.—A preacher in a frontier settlement had been collecting money for some church object. There was still some twenty dollars wanting; and after vain efforts to make up the deficiency he plainly intimated, as he locked the church door one day after service, that he intended to have that said twenty dollars before any of them left the house. At the same time he set the example by tossing five dollars on the table. Another put down a dollar, another half a dollar, another a quarter of a dollar, and so on. The parson read every now and then the state of the funds. "Thar's seven and a half, my friends." "Thar's nine and a quarter." "Ten and six bits are all that are in the hat, friends and Christian brethren." Slowly it mounted up. "Twelve and a half." "Fourteen." "Fifteen." "Sixteen and three bits," and so on, until it stuck at nineteen dollars fifty cents. "It only wants fifty cents, friends, to make up the amount. Will nobody make it up?" Everybody had subscribed, and not a cent more was forthcoming. Silence reigned, and how long it might have lasted it is difficult to say, had not a half dollar been passed through the open window, and a rough explanatory voice shouted, "Here, parson, there is your money; let out my gal, I'm about tired of waitin' for her!"—*New York Sun*.

DR. PUSEY AND THE ST. ALBAN'S RITUAL CASE.—Dr. Pusey, writing on the recent judgment of the Supreme Court of Appeal against Mr. Mackonochie, says:—"I need not say what effect it will produce in the minds of English Churchmen if the Supreme Court of Appeal is at one time stringent in its construction of words, at another lax, and both alike in criminal causes. For, however the accuser's costs, which are thus laid upon Mr. Mackonochie, may be paid by others, the law knows nothing of this. It has not only condemned him of doing an unlawful act in the most solemn part of public worship (which is the most sensible wound it could inflict on any clergyman), but has laid a considerable fine upon him. The world would call this 'playing fast and loose'—'loose,' whenever it is the question of allowing any matter of faith to be disbelieved; 'fast,' when it is the question of not allowing anything to be believed which popular prejudice disbelieves. If the union of Church and State involves this ultimate laxity and more than rigidity in the construction of our formularies, involving the denial of true doctrine and the prohibition of practice which represents doctrine, it certainly will be the earnest desire and prayer of Churchmen that the precedent now being set as to the Irish Establishment may be speedily followed as to the English."



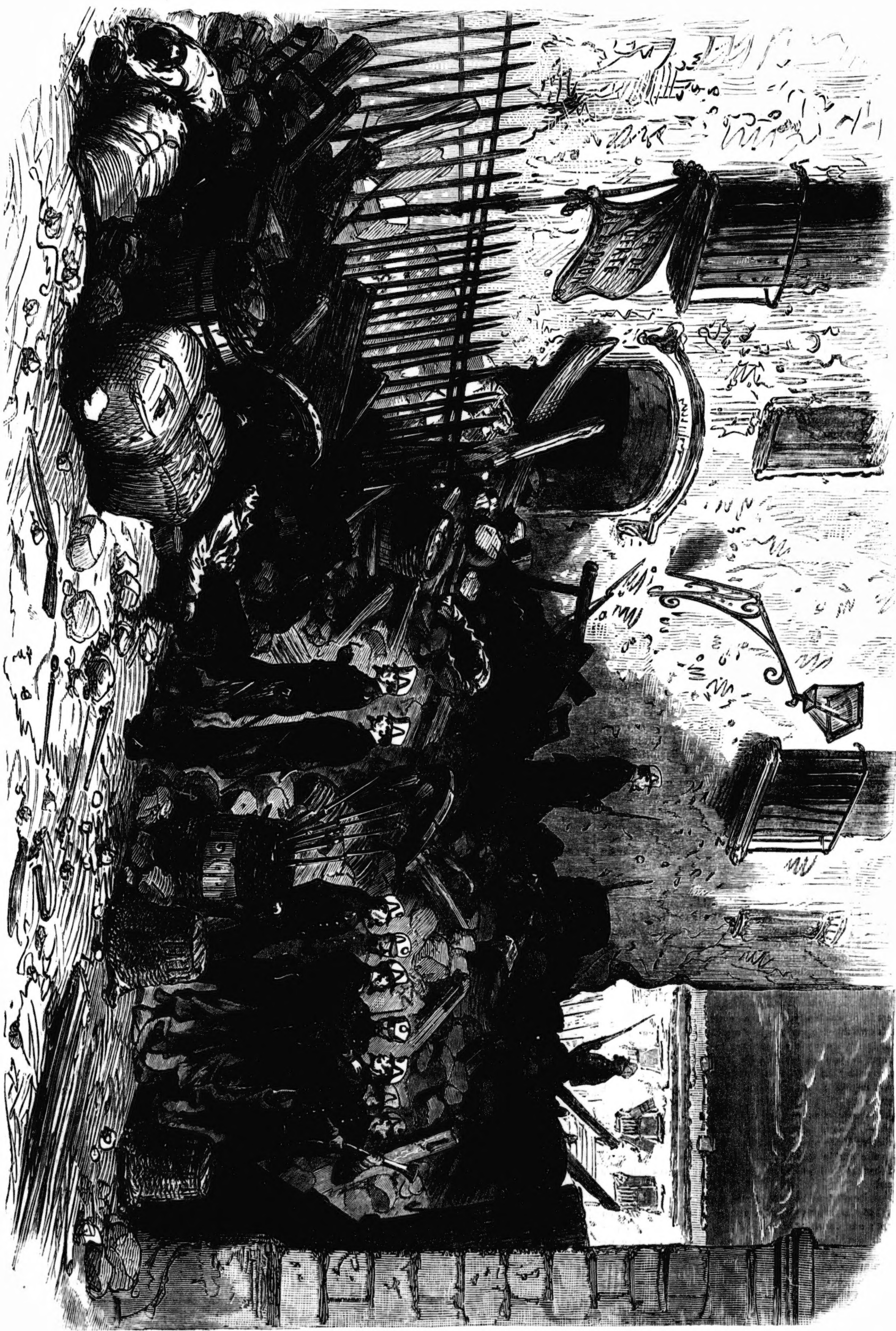


THE LATE INSURRECTION AT CADIZ: CONFLICT BETWEEN THE TROOPS AND THE INSURGENTS ON THE SEA WALL.



THE LATE INSURRECTION AT CADIZ: THE GARRISON DEFENDING THE ARTILLERY FROM THE INSURGENTS.





THE LATE INTERSECTION AT CADIZ: SCENE IN THE BARRIAGE IN THE SAN JUAN QUARTER AFTER THE CONFLICT.



## Imperial Parliament.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House met, on Tuesday, to enable Mr. Glyn to move the issue of the second and last batch of writs. Many Ministers—among them Mr. Bright, Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Lowe—took their seats. The attendance was not a very large one, and members were not in the best of humours at being interrupted in the midst of the Christmas festivities. Their misery, indeed, goaded them to legislative action. Lord BURY, after bitterly calling attention to the hardship inflicted on the House by the much-abused statute of Anne, gave notice of his intention to bring in a bill to repeal it. It is only in one of the latest weekly papers that this is spoken of as a very pleasant and feasible enterprise for an independent member. The recommendation has not been thrown away. After several other notices of motion, the House adjourned to Tuesday, Feb. 16.

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 2, 1869.

### THE RIGHT OF PROPAGANDISM.

APROPOS of the occasional calls upon England at home to interfere on behalf of Christian missionaries in the East, some of our contemporaries have been putting the case of a Confucian mission sent over to England to attack our religious institutions, and wondering what we should do in such a case. There is no harm in any suggestion that may help to make us more tolerant and more patient; but what we ought to do is quite clear—we ought to let the Confucian missionaries alone, and protect them, if necessary, just as we should our own people. Since it is the interest of every human being, everywhere, to know the truth, the right of propagandism is a primitive and universal right, only to be overridden by casual circumstances of expediency. The chief security any human being has for possessing the truth must lie in the fact that he leaves every other human being at liberty to prove him in the wrong if he can. We in England don't want a Confucian mission to overhaul our beliefs; but we should have no right to make an exception, in the case of such a mission, to the general law, which is that the right of propagandism is a universal right, unless the propagandist preaches up injury, such as theft or murder. In strict justice, if any nation denied that right, other nations might be at liberty to enforce it at the sword's point; because the denial would constitute a universal *casus belli*. This would, of course, be totally unchristian. The missionary of Christ goes forth, as Christ and his Apostles did, with his life in his hand. But he is perfectly entitled to avail himself of any protection that may offer itself. The practice of Paul himself, appealing to Caesar and claiming the immunities of a Roman citizen, is decisive as a precedent for Christian missionaries. And as to the politico-moral question, it is certain that if there were known to be, for example, one solitary Chinese in Pekin who wished to listen to a scientific lecturer or a Christian missionary, and the Chinese by force prevented his doing so, it would be perfectly just—however monstrously impolitic and impossible—for any or all other nations to declare war against China for the sake of that one man.

### NEW CLERKENWELL.

"TUT!" said Sterne, "are we not all relations?" And working upon this hint, with one of Robert Southey's, some ingenious person once constructed a table by which any human being could calculate his precise degree of cousinship to any other human being. Defoe long ago wrote—

A true-born Englishman's a contradiction. . .  
A metaphor, intended to express  
A man akin to all the universe.

There is, or was lately, living a gentleman who had proved to his own satisfaction that we are the lost tribes of Israel. And, lastly, to push the matter to its extreme limit, a German has just realised, to his satisfaction, the desire of the lover in "Maud"—that west should be east, and east should be west; for he has published a really learned book to prove that the true rule for the rectification of our ethnology is the same as that by which our astronomy was rectified—namely, turning things upside down; that the Garden of Eden was in the South-West Pacific; that Noah built the ark in Cuba; that Abraham was a Red Indian; and that the Red Sea crossed by the Israelites was Behring's Strait.

In spite of these bewilderingments, which seem to show that everybody is somebody else, and everywhere where you please; and in spite of Defoe's true couplet to the effect that an Englishman is a man akin to all the universe, we are not of the number of those cosmopolitan people who openly boast that they would as soon have been born Frenchmen, or Germans, or Americans, as Englishmen. Most of us like England and Englishmen, the soil and the people together, with a somewhat fanatical love. And proud as we may be of sending out the tongue that Shakespeare spoke in offshoots all over the planet till the sun can never set or rise upon the spot where he cannot hear the English good-night or good-morning uttered, we do not part with

batches of English-bred men and women without a subtle pang, when they go abroad to settle. Nay, if even the descendants of the Huguenot refugees at the East-End were to rise up and depart with their looms and their canaries, we should hardly like it. "What! are you going? Is not the old land kind to you? Do her hospitalities run short?" And yet, when we have once put our sentiment into our pockets, as we must do, there is not a single topic upon which sensible men are more ready to speak the encouraging word, and kindly, energetic men to lend the helping hand, than that of emigration.

There are very good news from Clerkenwell! In the ecclesiastical district of Saint Paul's, it appears that the Incumbent, the Rev. A. S. Herring, has for some time past been doing peculiarly good work among the industrious poor—the school-building in Allen-street, Goswell-road, serving as a church, a school-room, and a reading-room. In this place a few intelligent working men started a discussion-class, and one of the subjects they chose to discuss was emigration. Suffering, as the industrious classes in Clerkenwell have done, from the general depression of trade, the topic proved an interesting one; the Rev. C. H. Stewart, who has been in Canada, gave lectures upon what he had seen there; an emigration club was formed among the men and women; one man went out to explore and report; subscriptions at a very low rate are being paid in for the purchase of land, about 300 people subscribing sums varying from threepence to two shillings a week; and, in brief, it is as certain as anything human can be that before very long the distant soil of Ontario will be the site of a fresh settlement of English men and women, to be called New Clerkenwell.

When the little sausage-maker in "Pickwick," irritated by his vixen of a wife, threatened to go to America, the shameless hussy replied, "Well, go! and I wish the Merriken's joy of their bargain." In a different spirit, and, as Goldsmith's friend who bolted with the venison said, "ten times as hearty," we wish our Canadian fellow-subjects joy of their bargain, and we know they will get it. For the emigrants, too, it is a joyful thing—hot that we love them less, but that we love their prosperity more. May they prosper! May the soil they proceed to be so healthy that "when they inaugurate a burial-ground, it may be necessary to kill a man on purpose!" And may their example be followed in a hundred corners of this country! We shall look anxiously for news that the settlers have erected a new Hicks's Hall in the colony, and that they have a Phelps of their own, with whatever else may be necessary to make them feel perfectly at home at such a serious distance from the Sir Hugh Myddelton and the Sessions-House.

### THE LOUNGER.

THE *Daily News* of Wednesday says:—"The hero who achieved the feat of living during the French Reign of Terror did not triumph over greater difficulties than the Patronage Secretary of the Treasury who succeeded in making a House during the Christmas week." What absurd, exaggerated stuff is this! In the first place, the simile is utterly bad. Supposing the difficulty of making a House had been never so great, what analogy could there be between the Patronage Secretary sending from his office some hundred or so of lithographed circulars and a poor French wretch, ducking and diving, and hiding to escape the guillotine? But, secondly, Mr. Glyn had no difficulty in making a House. At a quarter to one more than forty members were present; when Mr. Speaker arrived, nearly a hundred. The truth is that, when a Parliament is young, as this is, there is never any difficulty in making a House; just as a young lad who has received a commission seizes every opportunity to parade his uniform. Your new member will, as soon as the doors of the House are open, rush to his place. Besides, there was on this occasion a special attraction. Some of the foremost members of the Cabinet—Gladstone, Bright, Lowe, &c.—were to be present for the first time since their appointment to office. Depend upon it, Mr. Glyn had no anxiety about the House. Some of the papers tell us that the cheering with which Gladstone and Bright were greeted was hearty and loud. This was not the case. Mr. Gladstone was cheered as he went to the table; but by no means enthusiastically. The cheering was louder when Mr. Bright appeared; but it was not enthusiastic. The truth is, the new members have yet to learn how to cheer, and there was no old member to act as leader or fagman. Mr. Gladstone looks uncommonly well, and is evidently exuberant with life and spirits. Mr. Bright, too, one is glad to see, looks well. Mr. Gladstone was rushing about like a fire-fly; Mr. Bright was, as ever, calm and self-possessed. All the other Cabinet Ministers present appeared to be, to use a provincial term, in "good fettle;" meaning up to their work. Mr. Bright on the Treasury bench was to me a strange sight, the strangest that I have seen in that House. As the phrase is, I could hardly believe my eyes when they reported the fact to my mind. True, this event has long been foretold; but I confess that I never believed the prophecy. But, then, I could not foresee the sweeping change that was about to take place; the rapid political moves that were about to be made; how soon old Whiggery would take its departure. Nor could I imagine household suffrage becoming law so soon; or that such vast questions—the Irish Church question, for example—would so speedily come to the front. I have lately been reading Mr. Bright's speeches republished by Macmillan, and in them I discern clearly the reason why. I had formed the opinion that Mr. Bright could never take office. The State policy of the time at which many of these speeches were delivered was utterly out of harmony with the beliefs and, I may say, the whole character of Mr. Bright. The idea of Mr. Bright on the Treasury bench jarred upon my mind like a false note upon my ear. But this, it seems, is altered. At all events, Mr. Bright has honestly satisfied himself that it is right to make the experiment, not to try whether he can attune his mind to the key of the Government as it is now constituted; but, whether the Government is tuned up to his key. The mountain must come to the prophet, for he will not go to the mountain. Well, it is a great experiment, and what will be the result no man can foresee. But, though the mountain and Bright may be still separated, there can be no doubt that the mountain has long been advancing—or, to be less figurative, in every department of our State policy the gulf between it and Mr. Bright has gradually narrowed. Our foreign policy now is almost in harmony with the non-interference policy which Mr. Bright has advocated all his life; and now there are signs of a coming time when our foreign policy will really be based, not upon diplomatic craft, but upon morality. And here I am tempted to give you an extract, bearing upon this subject, from a speech delivered by Mr.

Bright, at Birmingham, in 1858. A Calcutta critic had reminded Mr. Bright that Rome had pursued a policy of aggression for a period of eight centuries, and that, during those eight centuries, Rome remained great. To which Mr. Bright thus eloquently replied:—"I do not think that examples taken from Pagan, sanguinary Rome are proper models for the imitation of a Christian country; nor would I limit my hope of the greatness of England to even the long duration of 800 years. But what is Rome now? The great city is dead. A poet has described it as 'the lone mother of dead empires.' Her language even is dead. Her very tombs are empty; the ashes of the illustrious citizens are dispersed—

The Scipios' tomb contains no ashes now.

Yet I am asked, I, who am one of the legislators of a Christian country, to measure my policy by the policy of ancient and Pagan Rome! I believe there is no permanent greatness to a nation except it be based on morality." Then, in every other department there is an improved feeling; and here, expressing a sincere wish that Mr. Bright's experiment may be a success, I must leave the subject.

Economy is now once more a watchword of the Liberal party, and two steps the Government have taken in that direction during the last few days. Mr. James Disraeli, who held the post of a Commissioner of Inland Revenue (salary, £1200 a year), is dead, and the Commissionership is to be abolished. There were four Commissioners; there are now three. As these drop off, it is probable that their places will not be filled up. Why should they be? There is a chairman, with £2000 a year; a deputy chairman, with £1600; two secretaries, with £1200 each; two assistant secretaries, with £800 each, &c. All necessary, no doubt; but, if rumour speak truly, the Commissioners are of little or no use. There are also three Commissioners of Excise, each taking £1200 a year. These, it will probably be discovered, may be dispensed with. The other reduction alluded to is in the salary of the second clerk assistant at the table of the House of Commons. Mr. Henry Lea, who retires, received £1250; the new clerk will have only £1000.

Yes, Mr. Henry Lea has retired. He has been in the House nearly forty years. He is not very old nor infirm, but is afflicted with partial deafness, which disqualifies him for his place. He is the last of the Leas at the table. There were at one time, I think, three of the same family there; a few years ago there were two; now the last is gone. I do not think the table has been without a Lea this century; certainly there was one in Pitt's days. The House will be sorry to lose Mr. Henry Lea. It is confidently said that Mr. Reginald Palgrave, examiner of petitions for private bills, will go to the table. He is the son of the late Sir Francis Palgrave, and a brother of the Arabian traveller, and also of Mr. Palgrave at the Council Office and art-critic. Mr. Reginald Palgrave is a very able man, and hence his rapid rise. Two years ago Mr. Palgrave was a clerk at the Journal Office at £200 a year. But when one of the examiners of petitions died or resigned, Mr. Speaker at once chose Mr. Palgrave to fill the post; and now he is selected to take Mr. Lea's place. It is pleasant to see sterling worth thus promptly recognised; for there cannot be a doubt that Mr. Palgrave is the fittest man that could be chosen for the place. Men say that Mr. Palgrave is lucky, and so he is: he is lucky in having brains.

If any of my readers fancy that the new Government will reduce the income tax, or any tax, I think they will be disappointed; for, in the first place, the bill for the Abyssinian expedition is not paid. The total amount of the bill, I hear, is £8,000,000. The total amount paid, I think, is £5,000,000. Mr. Lowe will thus have to find £3,000,000 more; but, besides this, it was confidently stated at the House, on Tuesday, that the late Government have spent some £700,000 or £800,000 more than was voted in the spring.

The writers in your contemporary the *Pall Mall Gazette* are, no doubt, very smart, well-informed fellows; but they are not infallible, as they have more than once shown, and as one of them notably did on Monday last. In an article in that day's issue on "The Social Elements of the House of Commons" occurs the following sentence:—"The Duke most amply represented in the House of Commons is the youngest on the roll—the Duke of Hamilton: two of his sons and a brother are in the House." Now, as the gentleman at present known as the Duke of Hamilton (who, by-the-way, does not seem likely to increase the honourable fame of his family) was born in 1845, and is consequently only twenty-three years of age, it is difficult to understand how he can have "two sons" eligible for election to the House. Moreover, though the Duke has "a brother," born in 1847, and therefore just of legal age to become a legislator, I never heard that he had as yet aspired to senatorial honours. No doubt the writer in the *P. M. G.* was thinking of the Duke of Abercorn, and confounded that nobleman with the Duke of Hamilton. Hamilton is the family name of the Duke of Abercorn; his eldest son bears the courtesy title of Marquis Hamilton; he is sprung from the same stock as the Duke of Hamilton, and, I believe, lately made a claim to the Hamilton, Brandon, and Chateherault titles (or some of them); but surely the learned scribes of the *P. M. G.* ought to know better than to confound two such distinct (and very different) men as the Dukes of Hamilton and Abercorn. I see that the editor has since ascribed the blunder to which I have called attention to "an obvious slip of the pen." Perhaps it was; but as I have twice before seen the same mistake committed in other journals, it is worth while noticing the matter, in the hope that the same confounding of persons and families essentially distinct shall not again occur.

### THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

#### THE MAGAZINES.

Last week, Mr. Editor, in another column, was quoted a portion of an article expressing the opinion of the *Pall Mall Gazette* that the effect of Mr. Mill's political career was to show that there was no logical antagonism between the most extravagant chivalry and the philosophy of Bentham, which Mr. Mill professes. I have repeatedly said that I think there is, and it may amuse your readers to see that another newspaper, the *Spectator*, takes my view, and not the *Pall Mall's*. Here is part of what the *Spectator* says:—

We suspect that to thoughtful critics the impression produced by Mr. Mill's political achievements will not be favourable to his philosophy, though it will be to his individual nature. So far from discrediting the utilitarian and empirical philosophy by diffusing the notion of its vulgarity, Mr. Mill's public life has tended to injure it on the exactly opposite ground, that he himself so seems to distrust the natural bases and roots of his own doctrines that he cannot help straining after artificially manufacturing them into something far slier than any idealism, something less tangible than any theology. A thinker who spins utilitarianism and sensationalism into highly visionary and idealistic forms of thought, is scarcely likely to be the more trusted as a thinker, for his power of transformation.

I am sorry that some of the Christmas numbers have reached me unaccountably late; but it would be unfair not to give these late guests a few words.

Once a Year, the Christmas number of *Once a Week*, has much to recommend it. Mr. H. Vizetelly's paper about the "Rag-Pickers of Paris" is certain to be read because it has nothing to do with the season. In a short dramatic sketch, entitled "The Old Dream," Lord Lytton is in his very mellowest vein; and everybody, I am sure, will admit the effectiveness of the picture by Miss Edwards. There is a capital song by Mr. Mark Lemon, and another by Mr. Shirley Brooks, with some charming music—the best special music I have seen this Christmas—by Mr. Frederick Clay. By-the-by, did Mr. Shirley Brooks write the verses to Mr. Du Maurier's powerful cartoon in *Punch's Almanack*? If he did, I beg leave to raise Oliver Twist's immortal cry of "more!" Would it not be a good idea to publish a volume of society poems by Mr. Brooks and Mr. Lemon, with illustrations by Mr. Du Maurier and Mr. Keene? For 1869 the new story in *Once a Week* will be a translation of Victor Hugo's "Par Ordre du Roi."

As might be expected, the Christmas number of the *St. James's* is very strong in its stories. They seem to me as good as any I have seen this year, and better than the majority. The little woodcuts of rural scenes are always pretty—in conception. The



execution of the illustrations in this magazine has usually a certain crudeness about it.

Of the extra number of *Chambers's Journal*, entitled the "Extra-Ordinary," there is only room to say that it is a capital three-pennyworth, with plenty of the peculiar fun which we have lately been accustomed to find in *Chambers's*.

Now for the ordinary magazines, and, first, the new-comers. *Under the Crown* is a Civil Service venture, and it promises to be a particularly pleasant and readable monthly periodical. Mr. F. T. Palgrave, Mr. Planché, Mr. C. H. Ross, Mr. W. R. Greg (not that I love him, for I don't), Consul Cameron, and Dr. T. S. Phipson, are among the contributors. The sensation paper of the month is, perhaps, the "Personal Recollections of Lord Byron," by an "Octogenarian." It does not amount to a whitewashing, but it is full of kindly truthfulness. Men of the world, however, will read in a sinister light those self-accusations of Lord Byron to which the "Octogenarian" attributes so much of his Lordship's ill-repute. It will be said that Byron threw out extravagant hints of this kind for the purpose of throwing dust in people's eyes. And how are we to get over the express and compassionate evidence of Shelley in his letters to his wife? They draw a picture of Byron's degradation while he was in Italy which cannot be quoted for general reading. They refer to the collapse of Byron's health under excesses of the most horrible kind; they speak of him in terms of the deepest pity; and gladly record the improvement in his mode of life when he had become attached to the Countess Guiccioli. So sensible, however, was the Guiccioli of the danger Byron ran of going to the bad when he was unaccompanied, that she specially besought Shelley (in a letter which he sends to his wife as an excuse for a long stay) not to leave Vicenza (?—I quote from recollection) without my Lord. As for Lady Byron, I have always thought her conduct was excessively mean. If she could not forgive him and receive him, she was bound to cut herself off from his career as much as possible, and not take a reflected light from the glory of his name while she helped to make an outcast of him. However, it must be borne in mind that all our criticism in these matters is made in the twilight, if not in the dark. By-the-by, Consul Cameron's verses have the following extraordinary footnote:—"Baron Trenck used to be haunted in prison by dreams of the fêtes and gaieties of Berlin. The writer's Greenwich repasts [in dreams] are always served in magnificent buildings, often in ball-rooms; and beauties in crinoline are not wanting. The true key to these freaks of the imagination seems to lie in physical and mental cravings, repressed during the daytime, but which assert themselves in sleep." The editor says that the verses show the author's cheerfulness while he was in prison at Magdala. They do; but they show more. Consul Cameron has now informed the universe that he had "cravings" after "beauties in crinoline." Oh! Mr. Consul!

Here is another new-comer—the *Britannia*—which, I guess, will have a Conservative tint about it. By-the-way, the illustrations are tinted; and, as to the one entitled "Drifting"—a moonlit lake, lying under wooded hills—I have heard but one opinion; everybody praises it. Mr. F. C. Burnand and Mr. à-Beckett (the editor) are among the contributors. The paper entitled "An Audience Criticised by an Actor" is by no means bad. I cheerfully give all the publicity this column can afford to the fact that what is said, above a whisper, in the first two rows of stalls and of the private boxes next the stage can be heard upon the stage; and that actors—and especially actresses—often suffer much pain from the comments which are audibly made upon their "get-up," if they are poor. I once saw a young actress and singer utterly break down because a loud laugh (which might or might not have been intended to apply to her singing) reached the stage just as she was nearing a "point." The tears stood in her eyes, her face was like fire, her little sides (she was very little) visibly panted with her emotion, and at last the curtain had to fall. The *Britannia* promises well.

#### THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Your Theatrical Lounger has had a heavy time of it during the past week. Covent Garden, Drury Lane, the Lyceum, the New Gaiety, the Haymarket, the Queen's, the Holborn, and the St. James's have produced one, two, or three new pieces in the course of the past week. How far this spasmodic struggle for novelty confers an actual benefit on the houses in question is a matter that the lessees might do well to consider. A theatre that devotes itself to the production of absurdly-expensive novelties at a time when a dozen other houses, which have remained dormant for, perhaps, three months, makes precisely similar efforts, is likely to suffer rather than to benefit by the mass of counter-attraction. This remark does not apply so much to Drury Lane and Covent Garden, the two houses, par excellence, celebrated for their Christmas pantomimes; but to such houses as the Holborn, the St. James's, the Haymarket, the Lyceum, and the Queen's Theatre. Each of these houses has a specialty of its own, and that specialty is not "spectacle." They cannot compete with the two great houses; and if they can compete with each other the effect of the competition is as long as it is broad. Why don't they enter into a compact with each other that they won't produce Christmas pieces on Boxing Night? They would save themselves a large sum of money, they would save their actors a great many useless rehearsals, and they would save your Theatrical Lounger a great deal of cheerless hard work. Christmas is not a jovial season, and, if it were, it is difficult to see how its joviality is likely to be stimulated by a dreary, but magnificent spectacle, three hours long. It is a pity that the press devote so much attention to these Christmas nonsensicalities. A foolish pantomime is honoured with a notice a column and a half in length, while the critique on an original three-act comedy seldom occupies more than one third of a column. I don't mean to say that all that need be written about an original three-act comedy may not fairly be comprised within that space; I only say that the attention devoted at Christmas to pantomimes and pieces of the same class is out of all proportion to their actual importance.

The DRURY LANE pantomime, written by Mr. E. L. Blanchard, and founded on the story of "Puss in Boots," is capably told by the author, who is the best hand I ever came across in extracting an instructive moral from an unpromising subject. But the management cannot in fairness be complimented on the manner in which it has been put upon the stage. I was too late for the opening scene, which I am told is an exceedingly clever stage contrivance; but the scenery that I did see is certainly not up to the Drury Lane mark of former years. The transformation scene is meagre and inartistic in the extreme. There is scarcely any painting in it: it is simply a confused, unmeaning jumble of gold and silver foil and ugly women. The story, however, is well and clearly told; not overburdened with puns, but studded, nevertheless, with quite enough to gratify the curious in such matters. It contains, moreover, an admirable burlesque on the sensational scene in "After Dark." The miller's youngest son lies senseless on the floor of the mill, and his good genius, the Cat, is imprisoned in a hamper, from which it vainly struggles for some time to free itself. A rushing sound is heard, as of a distant train—a shrill whistle accompanies it—the orchestra plays "railway music," with a clever crescendo effect—a red light is thrown on the stage as from an approaching engine, and the din of machinery in full work grows louder and louder. Then the Cat contrives by a gigantic effort to liberate itself from its prison, and snatches the insensible body of the young miller from the track of the approaching horror. Then a miller driving a truck laden with corn rushes across the stage, followed by a train of some thirty other millers, each carrying a sack, and following in close file upon the heels of their leader. The effect is capably designed and capably executed. The first comic scene is coarse without being at all funny. I did not wait for the second.

The COVENT GARDEN pantomime is far ahead of its rival in the matter of pretty scenery and gorgeous dresses. It is well written by Mr. H. J. Byron, and cleverly stage-managed by Mr. Harris. It suffers terribly from an excess of the two Paynes, father and son, whose "business," repeated year after year without material varia-

tion, appears to pall seriously upon the audience. These gentlemen are very clever pantomimists, and deservedly hold the highest rank in their special department; but they should apply to their performances the golden rule that Mr. Sam Weller applied to his correspondence. Miss Nelly Power, a young lady who is a great favourite at divers music-halls, made her début on the stage last Boxing Night as "The Elf" in Mr. Byron's pantomime. She is pretty, and evidently intelligent, but (perhaps from a nervous anxiety to improve an effective début in a new capacity) she certainly over-acted her part. She is, to all appearance, extremely young, and, with the exercise of a little self-control, will probably develop into a valuable burlesque actress. She sings nicely, but with too much grimacing. A very little experience as a burlesque actress in a smaller theatre would probably have the effect of reducing the tendency to exaggerated emphasis which marked her performance on the opening night. Mr. Stoye plays the part of the King of the Cannibal Islands without vulgarity. Mr. Wilmott, as Mrs. Crusoe, will do well to believe that the author's lines would be more effective than any paraphrase of them that his own ingenuity could furnish. The scenery is generally beautiful, but the transformation scene is simply meaningless glitter. The opening ballet, dressed in a hideous combination of pink and green, is ineffective; but the dance of Amazons and of Ethiopian serenaders is admirably dressed and admirably arranged. A gorgeously-dressed dance of "Ladies of the Period" enlivens the dullness of the harlequinade.

The Christmas piece at the HOLBORN is Mr. W. Brough's clever burlesque, "Prince Amabel," in disguise. As this piece is constantly turning up under an alias—having been played at the St. James's, the Royalty, and (I think) the Victoria—it is not necessary that I should descant at great length on its merits. Suffice it to say that it is charmingly written, that the music is of precisely the right character for burlesque, and that the alterations and additions made by the author have the effect of giving it quite a contemporary effervescence. The piece is fairly mounted, and very nicely acted by Miss Fanny Josephs and Mr. Honey. Of course, with two such vocalists, the pretty music of the piece receives full justice.

Mr. Brough's burlesque, at the NEW QUEEN'S THEATRE, "The Gnome King," is not altogether so bright and sparkling a piece as Mr. Brough was once in the habit of writing, and of which "Prince Amabel" may be quoted as a specimen. It is probably intended rather as a vehicle for spectacular effects than as a means of telling a fairy tale clearly and effectively. Unfortunately, if this was the author's intention, it has not been fairly carried out by the scenic artist, who has lumbered his stage with some rather clumsy though very pretentious scenery. The dresses are costly, but not very effective; and the parts played by Messrs. Toole and Brough are not calculated to "exploit" the peculiar abilities of those actors. The piece is pleasantly written, and some of the music is pretty. Mr. Toole, as the Gnome King, is as reckless in his introduced fun as ever; but, as I have said, the part is not a good one. Mr. Lionel Brough had little opportunity of distinguishing himself. Miss Hodson plays Max with a genial vivacity that is peculiarly her own. There are many other parts in the piece, but they are intrusted, for the most part, to young ladies who, I hope, are novices, as in that case they may yet improve. Miss Everard, a clever actress, has hardly anything to say or to do. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the piece was favourably received on the first night, and Mr. Brough and Mr. Johnson, the scenic artist, received the usual "call."

Burlesque is necessarily an important feature in the GAIETY programme. This being the case, it does seem somewhat strange that such a very raw company has been selected to do it honour. Miss Farren apart, the characters in Mr. W. S. Gilbert's operatic extravaganza, called "Robert the Devil; or, the Nun, the Dun, and the Son of a Gun" (what a pity, Mr. Gilbert, in this *alias* to lower the character of your work, even suggestively!), were intrusted, for the most part, to those who were not only new to London but evidently untutored in an art which requires cultivation and practice. It has on all sides been allowed that Mr. Gilbert has endeavoured to improve the tone of this popular species of dramatic entertainment. But good music is utterly wasted when the company cannot sing it, and fun is frittered away on actors and actresses who have not the smallest appreciation of it. Pretty faces, and jewelled-fingers, and neat ankles are all very well in their way; but, although they are, doubtless, required to set off Mr. Alfred Thompson's dresses, they won't of themselves speak Mr. Gilbert's lines or sing M. Offenbach's or M. Hervé's music. The contrast between Miss Farren's clever sprightliness and the somewhat inane woodiness of several of the ladies is sufficiently ludicrous. That Miss Farren's vivacity is not infectious is sufficient proof, to my mind, that her companions are either powerless to realise or incapable of appreciating the proper spirit of burlesque. Not much more can be said of the men. Bertram—one of the best-written characters in the piece—falls to the lot of Mr. R. Barker, who literally makes nothing of it; and Gobetto, as played by Mr. Eldred, is merely a weak suggestion of Mr. Toole and Mr. Brough. Happily for the author, and for the success of the burlesque, the funniest scene is the best rendered. The notion of changing the celebrated nun-scene of the opera into the Chamber of Horrors at Madame Tussaud's was admirable enough, and the fun of it is not lost at the Gaiety. Mr. J. Robins, who plays that celebrated old gentleman in Baker-street who lives in a cave tenanted by rats, in make-up and action, thoroughly understands the author's meaning and secures the success of the scene. The verdict of the public will very probably be that Mr. Gilbert's selection of music, because it is superior to the music-hall trash of the period, is over the heads of the audience. With that verdict I for one shall never be inclined to agree. As it is, the burlesque is successful, and on its own merits; but, had it been played and sung by competent artists throughout, it would have given universal satisfaction. Of the manner in which it is mounted and dressed there can be no question. It is a superb spectacle, in harmony in all respects with the beautiful house in which it is played. The eye is never weary of resting on Mr. Grieve's scenery, or the picturesque and gorgeous costumes, or the picked ballet headed by Mdle. Bossi, who dances with wonderful agility and sets a fashion in ballet-dresses to which as yet in England we are somewhat strangers. But the eye and the ear work together. It seems a pity, when there has been such lavish expenditure on mechanism, that just a trifle more could not have been devoted to art.

THE LATE GALES.—The violent gales of the last few days have been attended with serious consequences, and in several instances loss of life is reported. On Sunday evening a schooner, bound from London to Dieppe, went ashore at Boulogne; the life-boat which proceeded to rescue the crew was capsized and five men were drowned. At Rochdale, on Sunday afternoon, a place used as a school-room, and containing at the time about 400 persons, was blown down, and, although no one was killed, several received very serious injuries. There has been a fatal collision off Harwich, in which two lives were lost. Two vessels which were anchored in Plymouth Sound were driven on the Batten reef, a ledge of rocks at the eastern end of the harbour, and are expected to become total wrecks. In London and its suburbs much damage has been done.

THE LOMBARD EXCHANGE AND NEWS ROOMS.—On Wednesday an institution long needed in commercial circles was opened for the inspection of the public, under the name of the "Lombard Exchange and News Rooms." The whole of the ground floor of the Lombard-street portion of the magnificent building erected by the City Offices Company at the Gracechurch-street corner of the bankers' thoroughfare has been devoted to the purpose of a subscription-room to which gentlemen from the country, as well as those resident in London, may resort and find most of the comforts and more than the usual conveniences of a club. The immense and lofty room is supplied with almost every newspaper; there are facilities for writing and receiving letters; drawers or lockers, for the safe keeping of private papers, may be engaged; and a commodious lavatory is attached to the premises. The experiment, which will doubtless be eminently satisfactory, will be in complete operation in a few days, when a superbly-fitted luncheon and chop room will be added to the arrangements, the refreshment department having been confided to the care of Mr. Frederick Gordon, of Crosby Hall. The subscription at present is three guineas per annum, and a rather larger proportionate payment will entitle to the use of the institution for a shorter period than one year.

#### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE CROWN PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF PRUSSIA, accompanied by their suite, travelled, on Monday, from Portsmouth to Dover, and shortly afterwards left in a special steamer for the Continent.

MR. GLADSTONE attained the fifty-ninth year of his age on Monday. Mr. Disraeli, his predecessor in the Premiership, completed his sixty-third year on Thursday.

HENRI DE BOURBON, brother of the ex-King of Spain, has addressed a letter to the Provisional Government, in which he attacks the ambition of the Duke of Montpensier, and asks to be allowed to return to Spain as a simple citizen, and take service again in the navy.

THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY, who has been seriously ill, is slowly improving in health, but it will be some time before he will be able to resume the duties of his diocese.

LORD MAYO arrived in Bombay on the 20th ult. Lord Napier has also arrived, and resumed the command of the Bombay army.

LADY MARY, sister of the present Duke of Hamilton, is shortly going to be married to Prince Hohenzollern, brother of Prince Charles of Romania.

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ROSSE has been chosen, by a majority of votes, to be the peer to sit in the House of Lords in the room of the late Lord Farnham.

LORD AND LADY CAIRNS have left London for Rome, where they purpose remaining till shortly before the meeting of Parliament.

THE RIGHT HON. MAZIERE BRADY, who was Lord Chancellor of Ireland in several Liberal Administrations, is to receive the honour of a Baronetcy, in recompense for his long and eminent judicial and political services.

A THIRD LETTER from Earl Russell to the Right Hon. Chichester Fortescue on the state of Ireland will be published in a few days.

MR. BUTLER-JOHNSTONE's health is such that his physician has ordered him to the south of France.

MR. REDGRAVE, her Majesty's Inspector of Factories, has issued a notice reminding the public that after the 1st inst. "the Saturday half-holiday will be compulsory as regards children, young persons, and women, in all factories, workshops, and places in which any manual labour is performed."

ONE MILLION POSTAGE STAMPS are daily used in the United States.

MR. CHALMERS, the inventor of the Chalmers target and projector of the Channel railway, died last Saturday, just as his second target, ordered by the authorities, was on the eve of completion for further experiments.

CAPTAIN SPEIRS, M.P. for Renfrewshire, died on Wednesday morning, at a quarter to ten, at Elderslie House, of gastric fever, from which he had been suffering for a fortnight.

MR. T. W. EVANS, the late Liberal member for South Derbyshire, intends to oppose Colonel Wilmot, who seeks to possess himself of the seat vacated by Sir Thomas Gresley's death. The nomination is fixed for Tuesday next, and the polling will be on Thursday. A smart contest is expected.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE SHIP GLENCARNE was fined two guineas by the Liverpool magistrates, on Tuesday, for smuggling tobacco in a missionary-box.

A NEW LAW OF KANSAS, by which a wife may prosecute a publican who sells spirits to her husband, promises not to be a dead letter. The *Lawrence Tribune* contains the following advertisement:—"To whom it may concern. I hereby give notice that the sale of spirituous liquors to Homer Hays is contrary to my wishes, and that I shall prosecute according to law any person who disregards this notice.—CATHERINE HAYS."

AN ATTEMPT has been made to blow up the new co-operative stores at Mansfield. Monday was fixed for the opening of the stores, and it was discovered that a quantity of gunpowder had been mixed with the coals. Fortunately, very little damage was done.

THE CEREMONY of confirming the election of Dr. Tait to the see of Canterbury took place, on Wednesday morning, at the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, in the presence of a large number of spectators. The see of London thus becomes vacant, and all patronage that falls in the diocese until the new Bishop is elected and confirmed, and has done homage (probably for the next five weeks) will belong to the Crown.

VICTOR HUGO gave his annual Christmas fête to poor children at Hauteville House on Thursday week. The little guests were first feasted and then presented with bundles of good warm clothing. In addressing to the assembled visitors a few words, the poet referred with pardonable pride to the manner in which his charitable idea had fructified in the metropolis, where over 122,000 children have been assisted since he gave his first "juvenile party."

A THEATRICAL DRESSMAKER was summoned on Wednesday, at Marlborough-street, for keeping her workwomen employed after half-past four on Saturday. She pleaded in excuse that she was completing a large order for the dresses of the "Girls of the Period" in the pantomime at Drury Lane; but it did not avail her, and she had to pay 40s.

THE PATIENTS OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL kept Christmas on Wednesday night, under the superintendence of the kindly ladies of All Saints' Home. One of the grim wards was cleared and made to look cheerful and festive with that art which is peculiarly woman's own; and there the patients who were well enough amused themselves, while the ladies and their friends looked after those whom sickness confined to their beds.

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM was last week visited by 25,385 persons, the average of the corresponding week in former years being only 12,575. The museum since its opening has had a total of 7,985,756 visitors.

THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS has passed a bill allowing women in Government employ the same pay as men for the same work.

A QUARTZ GOLD NUGGET has been found at St. Arnaud, California, weighing 508 oz., of which 400 oz. are supposed to be gold. It was found in a quartz reef then being prospected. The party also obtained 400 oz. of other specimens.

THE HEAVY RAINS of the past few days have flooded the low-lying districts in many parts of the kingdom. In Lancashire several hundreds of acres are under water; and in the neighbourhood of Oxford, Windsor, and other places on the Thames large lakes have been formed.

CHOLERA has broken out at the French colony of St. Louis, in Senegal. According to the *Gazette de France*, the natives are dying at the rate of a hundred a day.

A CLAIMANT TO THE TITLE OF LORD BELHAVEN, who died a few days ago, is likely to be found in Sir Robert Hamilton, Bart., of Silverton-hill, Lanarkshire, descendant of Sir Robert Hamilton, the eighth Baronet, of Silverton-hill, who married the Hon. Anne Hamilton, second daughter of John Hamilton, of Bell, the first Lord Belhaven, by the patent dated Feb. 10, 1675.

FOREIGN GAME is now becoming a regular article of consumption in Paris. For Christmas not less than 4000 hares arrived from Germany, besides a quantity of wild boars, deer, and chamois, with a variety of the feathered tribe, from Transylvania.

THE FIRST GENERAL FALL OF SNOW of the season commenced at noon on Tuesday, in the North and East Ridings.

THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS has acceded to the application of Mr. T. Shuff, that the name of the Thrale family should be perpetuated by a new thoroughfare at Streatham being named "Thrale-road."

PRISCILLA BIGGADYKE, who was sentenced to death at the late Lincoln Assizes for the murder of her husband, was executed, on Monday morning, within the walls of the prison. To the last she persisted in declaring her innocence.

ISABEL SCALES, a young girl not quite thirteen years of age, is in custody at Pickering, in Lancashire, on the charge of poisoning the family in which she was employed as a servant. Seven persons were poisoned, but all have recovered or are recovering. The girl has been remanded till her mistress shall be well enough to give her evidence.

THE MANAGERS OF THE CENTRAL LONDON DISTRICT SCHOOL, at Hanwell, have received an application for one hundred boys for the Royal Navy, and upwards of that number expressed their willingness to go; in all cases the consent of the parents had to be obtained, and, in cases where the boys were orphans, that of the guardians of the parish to which the boys were chargeable.

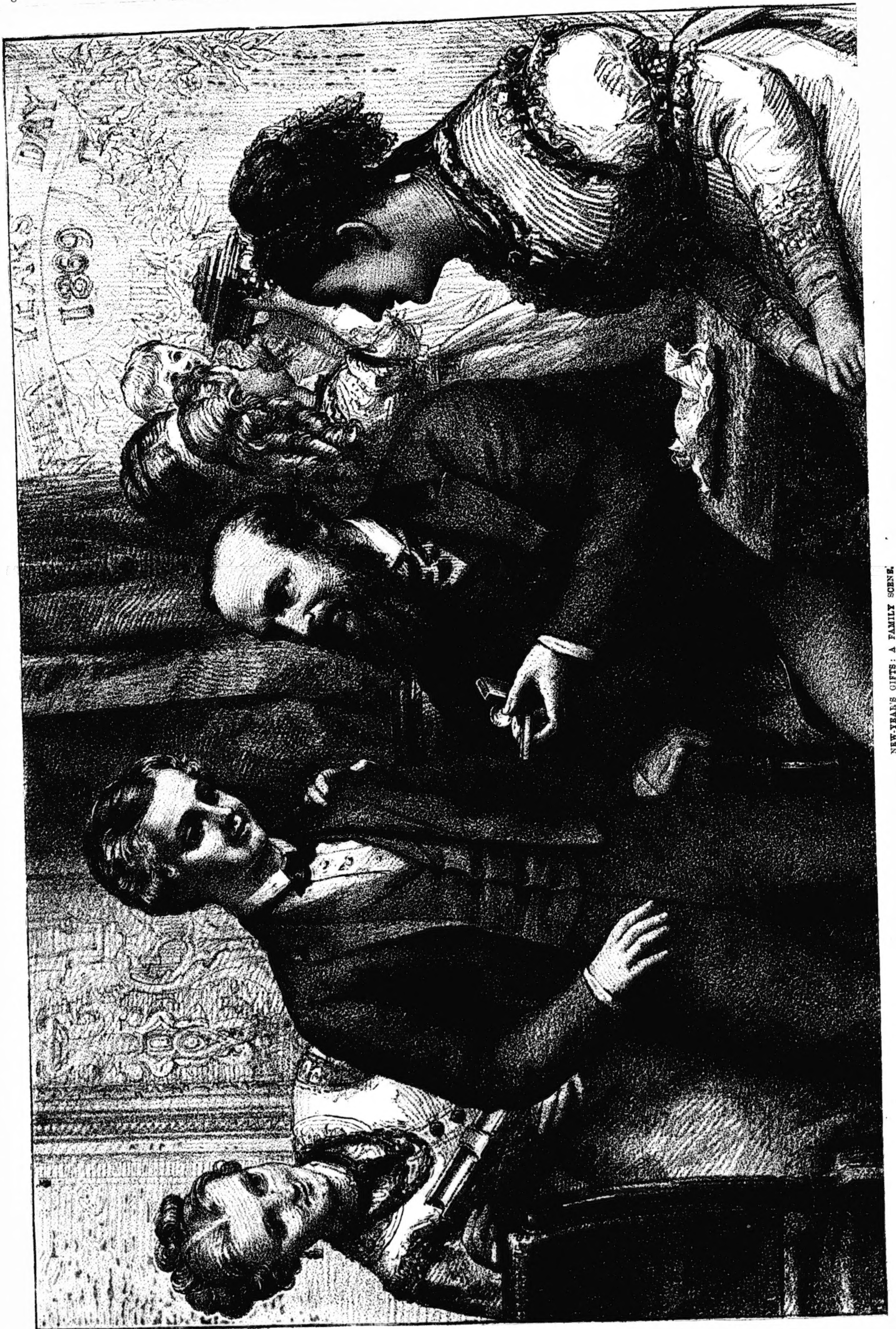
THE MAN BISGROVE, who was sentenced to death at the late Somerset Assizes for the murder of a man named Cornish, will be executed at Taunton next Monday morning. Robert Sweet, who was also sentenced to be hanged for participation in the crime, has been respited during her Majesty's pleasure. Bisgrove has always said that Sweet was innocent.

A DETECTIVE OFFICER has been shot in the street at Northampton by a man who had a few minutes previously attempted the life of his brother, with whom he had quarrelled whilst they were spending the Christmas holidays. The shot took effect in the officer's left breast, and he died on Tuesday. The murderer has been committed for trial.

THE HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY of the introduction of vaccination in Russia by the Empress Catherine II. is to be celebrated in a few days at St. Petersburg. A prize of 3000 roubles (£400) is offered by the Government on this occasion for the best history of vaccination. The competition is to be open to all Europe, and the history may be written in any modern European language.

TWO FATAL OCCURRENCES are recorded as having taken place in London on Christmas Eve. In Alfred-street, Barnsbury, a party was given at a house in which two young men were lodgers. In the course of the evening a slight quarrel arose between the latter, when one took a rifle which happened to be near, and shot the other dead. In New Gravel-lane, Shadwell, two men, who had always been on good terms, disagreed on some trifling matter, when a scuffle took place, and one of them fell from a platform 16 ft. in height, and was killed immediately. In both cases the delinquents are in custody.





NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS: A FAMILY SCENE.





THE PANTOMIME AT COVENT-GARDEN THEATRE: CRUSOE AND HIS COMPANIONS ON THE ISLAND,



SCENE FROM THE DRURY-LANE PANTOMIME: JOCELYN'S INTRODUCTION TO THE PRINCESS.



## NEW-YEAR'S GIFTS.

It may be supposed that even the most inveterate holiday-maker will have begun to get over the Christmas festivities immediately after Twelfth Night. Only a few years ago—say thirty, and then we shall still have half a lifetime of recollection before we reach the three-score-and-ten which has, till lately, been the standard of human longevity—people were anxious to extend the festive season, and made excuses for keeping old Christmas Day with a sort of pretence that that neglected anniversary might feel slighted if some recognition were not accorded to it in the general rejoicing. Even Candlemas had a kind of half-acknowledged claim, despite its papistical origin, and twelfthcakes adorned the windows of every pastrycook's shop before the anticipated night, when King, and Queen, and court, and characters were drawn, and riddles were guessed, and ginger was hot in the mouth, and nobody was too virtuous to deprecate a few additional cakes, and the ale spigot-hole was set a-running. It is the fashion now to deprecate Christmas. Some of our teachers seem to think that we have grown too wise to be merry, and that not only the laughter of fools, but all laughter, is like the crackling of thorns under a pot. We have yet to wait before we learn what the world is the better for this wisdom. At present it has but brought our nobles to nineness. We have humbly stooped before these eagles for the purpose of picking up nothing; and, could we suppose their zygomatic muscles to be liable to such a base contortion, we might imagine them relaxing into a broad grin at our expense. At any rate, they and their pupils may learn to save something by crying out against Christmas. Their pockets will be fast buttoned on Boxing Day, and not the brightest and hottest yule-log that ever burned will melt them open, nor the primest turkey and brawn induce them to let out a reef. New-Year's Day brings no substantial remembrance from them, and the luckless youngster who owns them for uncle will look in vain for a tip, or a treat to the play. They are not wise enough to go a-fooling, these grim folks, and not even the Polytechnic is grave enough for them now it has taken to the newest fashion of harmless mirth and fun at the children's holiday time. Besides the Polytechnic reminds them of watches, and the ardent youth who has seen a watch made for him by machinery would, in some access of rash ambition, propose to transfer his regards from Professor Pepper to Mr. Streeter, and make the magical timepiece his own, so that he might nevermore be late in the cricket-field or before his time in class. The new year is suggestive of many matters, and chiefly so to the liberal soul, willingly devising liberal things. As to the curmudgeons, who "don't see why"—let them, for the present, be relegated to the moles and the bats, as congenial company. The very birds would scorn them. The Christmas robin, instead of tapping at their pane, would sing a trumpet note of defiance and wing away to some other lattice; and the lonely kingfisher, sitting by a pool of some solitary mere, would resent their presence as an unwarrantable intrusion. This abrupt introduction of the kingfisher will be explained by turning to one of our two Engravings, both of which require special reference, as they are produced by a new process that may ultimately have a considerable effect on the pages of illustrated books and newspapers. On some future occasion we shall have more to say on the subject of this invention; at present we introduce these examples as being among the first results of its experiments.

## THE PANTOMIMES.

PERHAPS the most noticeable feature about the Christmas amusements this year is the indication they afford of the decline of pantomime, as that term was understood in the youthful days of those who have now attained to middle age. It is true that Clown and Pantaloon and Harlequin and Columbine still flourish in the suburbs of London, and in provincial towns and cities; but it is the aristocracy of theatres, the houses of the West-End, that set the fashions which ultimately extend to the furthest confines of the theatrical world. Drury Lane, conservative in its habits, as befits a theatre of so many traditions, still upholds the banner of the great Grimaldi; but the fact that only two other West-End houses follow its example is conclusive as to the change that is at work. Time was when a theatre without a pantomime at Christmas was a thing not to be conceived. But heresy crept into this, as into all other human institutions. We well remember the first pantomime in which a daring innovator ventured to omit the red-hot poker which has caused so many young eyes to water with delight. Sages in stalls and dress-circle shook their heads, and said it was the thin edge of the wedge, and so it has proved. The day is evidently approaching when pantomime of the old school will be a theme for theatrical antiquaries. Even burlesque, which has hitherto been the great foe to pantomime, shows signs of decay. Many houses, at least, do not attempt even this apology for the absence of the old harlequinade business; and it is curious to observe how many theatres of established reputation feel confident of attracting full houses, all through the holiday season, without making any change in their programme. The new theatres which have been recently added to our list of places of entertainment have certainly made no appreciable difference in the audience at the old ones. Last Saturday night the old houses were certainly not the less crowded because the new Gaiety and the Globe were filled to overflowing. To give details of all the pantomimes is obviously impossible, in our limited space; so we content ourselves with illustrations and descriptions of those at the two principal houses.

## COVENT GARDEN.

The title of the pantomime, written for this house by Mr. H. J. Byron, is "Robinson Crusoe; or, Friday and the Fairies," but we need hardly say to those who know the prescriptive privileges of burlesque authors, that Defoe's immortal masterpiece has been treated after a fashion which makes Crusoe's umbrella and the irrepressible Man Friday almost the only connecting links between the old story and the latest attempt at a travesty of the same. Mr. Byron's Robinson (Mr. W. H. Payne) is the father of many children and the husband of a scolding wife (Mr. Wilmott), which last domestic treasure at length persecutes him to such an extent that he is readily induced to go to sea, being tempted to that rash course by "An Elf," in sailor's disguise, who has vowed that an island governed by the Sedate Fairy (Miss Maria Harris) shall be overrun by multitudes of the obnoxious sex. Elf (Miss Nelly Power), in pursuance of his resolution, takes care that the fugitive spouse shall be shipwrecked on the enchanted isle in question, where he speedily saves Man Friday (Mr. Fred. Payne) and makes himself very comfortable in a cave, the solitude of which is further enlivened by the gambols of the traditionary goat, cat, and poll-parrot. Sedate Fairy, greatly disgusted by this invasion of her territory, sends for Mrs. Crusoe by way of inflicting condign punishment on the intruder, but he, finding the charms of solitude dimly enlivened by Black Friday's companionship, is only too glad to meet his once dreaded partner. Hardly, however, have the reunited pair rejoiced over their meeting when a troop of cannibals appear, and bear the white folks off in triumph to their sovereign, the King of the Cannibal Islands (Mr. J. D. Stoyke). At this crisis the grand spectacular triumph of the piece, antecedent to the transformation scene, takes place; and it must be confessed that the "procession of the tribes," consisting of ostrich cavalry (wonderfully well contrived), warriors, minstrels, snake-charmers, &c., headed by King Hokey-Pokey-Wankey-Fum in a dragon-shaped chariot, drawn by alligators, constitutes altogether one of the most gorgeously-effective displays of diverse form and colour ever put upon a stage. The background of this scene is by Mr. Telbin, and represents a Ravine in the enchanted isles. The cannibal monarch at once conceives culinary projects in reference to Mrs. Crusoe; but in the mean time his favourite squaw (Miss Lavine) has fallen in love with Robinson, and, finding her present lord in the way, boldly raises the standard of Women's Rights, and, calling upon her attendants to fight the King's Guards, exclaims, "Our most appro-

priate war-cry shall be 'Mill!' Hokey-Pokey is overpowered and borne off to a huge cauldron prepared for the white victims; but ere he is sacrificed therein he makes an appeal to his captors which induces them to let him go, and, returning to interrupt a flirtation between his squaw and Robinson, he is about to be revenged upon the latter, when Mrs. Crusoe rushes forward and begs that she may be the first to suffer. This act of devotion softens the cannibal king, and he sets both at liberty, amid general delight, even the Sedate Fairy declaring that her prejudice against "men folks" has been completely overcome. Then follows the transformation scene, by Mr. Matt Morgan, introducing the spectators to Coralie, or the Fairies' Haunt. In this scene magic shells of pearly tints, which open to discover that they are the abodes of nymphs clad in shimmering garments; nautilus-cars, seaweed, "rich in dyes" and fantastic in shape; and presiding fairies supported in the most graceful of attitudes in the most apparently impossible places—all are there, the whole forming a coup-d'œil as delightful to the beholder as it is characteristic of Mr. Matt Morgan's genius in this particular line. But, besides the two principal scenes in the Covent Garden pantomime to which we have alluded, there are others which are too good to be passed over. The opening spectacle, by Haves Craven, which (happily) dispenses with the almost invariable gnome and ogre business, is extremely pretty, and forms the setting to a well-arranged ballet, which is composed by the director of the dances, M. Desplaces. Mlle. Lambertini, a danseuse new to the English public, sustained the most prominent share in these terpsichorean diversions with admirable agility. Then the second important scene, giving a representation of Wapping in the olden time, will prove particularly attractive to young visitors on account of its view of the river and moving boats. Mr. Dayes is the contriver of this part of the entertainment. Mr. Byron's dialogue is good enough to serve the small purposes which such compositions are required to serve in a piece avowedly intended to exhibit the talents of scenic rather than of literary or histrionic artists. The harlequinade, by the brothers Payne, Mr. Paulo, and Mlle. Esta, contained abundant jokes at the expense of the police, and was agreeably varied by the tricks of some clever dogs, a dance by ballet cricketers, and twelve young ladies dressed in the most gorgeous possible costumes of the period. The Payne brothers, as Crusoe and Friday, and Miss Nelly Power, as the sportive elf, did every possible justice to the pantomimic notion of those characters, and Miss Power's sailor's hornpipe gained an enthusiastic encore.

## DRURY LANE.

Mr. E. L. Blanchard is the author of the pantomime at "Old Drury," and for nineteen years he has given this theatre its Boxing-Night entertainment, the orthodox title of which is "The Drury Lane Christmas Comic Annual." This year the piece is "Grimaldi the Great; or, Harlequin Puss in Boots and the Miller's Sons." The curtain rises upon a very happy representation of a working beehive. A number of bees, cleverly "made up" of small children, are to be seen honey-making in their cells, which are ranged, pigeon-hole fashion, over each other. A commotion is raised by the entrance of an intruding bluebottle, who soon establishes a bond of sympathy with a large section of the audience by a couple of music-hall songs. The Queen-Bee (Miss Hudspeth) essays to quell the strife, and the bluebottle is seized by the bumble-bee, but claims release by revealing a conspiracy against the hive. Thus we glide naturally into the narrative, in which Puss in Boots (Mr. J. Irving) is the chief hero. Yonder miller has died, leaving three sons; the eldest two, not being kindly affected towards the insect creation, have determined to burn out the bees; the youngest son "wouldn't hurt a fly;" the former have the bulk of the property, the latter has been bequeathed a cat. Here, of course, we have the plot in a nutshell. The younger son, Jocelyn (Miss Coveney), has to be exalted, and the other two abased. This is brought about in the end, although the means, as is no doubt quite permissible under the circumstances, are contrived more with an eye to pretty scenes and funny situations than to the consistent development of the story. Hence the preliminary scene is no sooner shifted than we have what is, probably, the best picture of the evening. It is a flowery dell on a summer morning, and is quite worthy of Mr. Beverley's reputation as a scenic artist. Shepherds and shepherdesses, in Arcadian costume, rest from their toils, and lounge sentimentally upon banks of flowers. Verdant branches meet overhead; and in the distance (apparently an immense distance) a break in the foliage reveals a cascade, down which water musically tumbles over jutting stones, and by charming knolls of herbage, where groups of tiny Arcadians are reposeing. It is a cool, sweet bit of scenery, especially characterised by good perspective. There is some discourse amongst characters of the Phyllis, Chloe, Damon, and Delia type, and the opportunity for a little melody is, of course, irresistible. A new song—words by Mr. Blanchard, and music by Mr. W. C. Levey—is introduced, under the title of "The Tinkling of the Bell;" but we should not like to risk much upon its length of life. The bees next appear for a brief space, a ballet follows, and the Flowery Dell is transformed into graceful masses of rose branches, in the centre of which a huge rosebud gradually unfolds, displaying in the centre a Cupid in the act of discharging a shaft from his bow. The interior of a mill forms the third scene, bringing with it the miller's three sons and Puss in Boots (who has been suddenly endowed with speech), and the rescue of Jocelyn the younger by the cat from the machinations of his brothers. Another beautiful scene, Corn-fields and Banks of a River, is given in scene four. Peasants and reapers are sprinkled plentifully among the cut sheaves, a comely windmill overlooks the prospect, and a mellow harvest tone imparts warmth to the whole. Philip the Podgy, King of Little Bretagne (Mr. Moreland), accompanied by the Princess (Miss Harflene) and by a numerous and certainly remarkable retinue, enters; also Puss in Boots, imploring help for his beloved master, Jocelyn, who had, while bathing, allowed somebody to run away with his clothes. Given this interview, and anyone can guess the total—the King's favour, the advancement of the miller's youngest son, the love of the Princess (who had previously informed her papa that riches and beauty were nothing to her without a "nice young man" to admire them), and the customary "Bless you, my children!" termination. By the attachment, courage, and cunning of Puss, Jocelyn, assuming the fictitious rank of Marquis of Carabas, induces a certain magician to turn himself into a mouse, destroys him, and succeeds to his castle and wealth. The Glittering Web of the Golden Gossamers is the transformation scene. It was loudly applauded on Boxing Night, and Mr. Beverley, both here and at the Flowery Dell scene, was summoned from the wing. The transformation scene is a gorgeous combination of delicate colouring, and owes its main effect to two or three dozens of ballet-girls suspended in the air, one of them at a dizzy height. There is no attempt at natural scenery, but the general effect of the grouping becomes more and more striking until the coloured fires herald the end. There was far more than average method in the subsequent "business," and a considerable portion of it was fairly entitled to be called comic. There was a double pantomime company, including Boleno and Lauri as Clowns, and Paul Herring and Morris as Pantaloons. The police, as usual, came in for their full share of "chaff." Indeed, every year there seems to be some special material supplied for the purpose—this time, dog law and hoop legislation proving great sources of fun. In one scene there was an "Emporium of Beauty," in which women who wished to be beautified were received by a hook-nosed shopwoman whose intended nationality could not be mistaken. There was a pretty view on the Thames, in another scene, devoted to "The Angler's Retreat," before which a troupe of performing dogs made the audience laugh as much as the other actors. At the close of this there was a "Girl of the Period" ballet. A certain "Invincible Safe Dépôt" furnishes the title of a third scene, and the deck of a man-of-war, manned by 300 children, and cleared eventually for a hornpipe, was the subject of a fourth. The Fairy Hive and Home of Industry, as the final tableau, was loudly cheered, and the principal authors concerned were honoured with calls.

## METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

THE annual report of the Metropolitan Board of Works has been published. The subjects upon which it treats are very numerous, and are of much interest to the ratepayers of the metropolis.

**MAIN DRAINAGE OF THE METROPOLIS.**—With the exception of portions of the northern low-level sewers and the pumping-station at Abbey Mills, the whole of the works comprehended in the main-drainage scheme have been completed and in full operation for the past three years. The area drained by the board's main and branch sewers is about 117 square miles, and the length of sewers constructed is about eighty-two miles.

**PURIFICATION OF THE THAMES.**—The effect of the main-drainage works has been to secure in a still higher degree than heretofore the purity of the Thames within the limits of the metropolis. The marked increase of fish in this portion of the river, and the absence of offensiveness during the summer, which has been remarkable for the long continuance of a very high temperature and the small amount of rainfall, are clear proofs of its improved state, and give a guarantee that there will be no return to those conditions which, in the year 1858, gave rise to such well-grounded alarm in relation to the health of London.

**UTILISATION OF THE SEWAGE.**—The results obtained by these operations have tended to confirm the previously expressed opinion of the board with regard to the value of sewage as a fertiliser of the soil. A sample of wheat was sent to the board, grown on land which bore a wheat crop last season produced by means of unexhausted manure remaining on the land, after 4000 tons of sewage per acre had been applied to it last year, the same land having produced 71 tons of grass per acre last season.

**THE THAMES EMBANKMENT (NORTH AND SOUTH).**—The first portion, on the north side, extending from Westminster Bridge to Waterloo Bridge, will shortly be completed. The second portion, from Waterloo Bridge to the eastern end of the Inner Temple Gardens, is complete, with the exception of some ornamental casts and carvings, and will cost, as nearly as can be ascertained, £232,865. With regard to the third portion, between the Temple and Blackfriars Bridge, considerable delay has taken place, in consequence of negotiations with the Metropolitan District Railway Company, but it has not been without corresponding advantages. Whilst, on the other hand, a large saving in the cost of construction will be effected, on the other the continuation of the embankment in a solid form, with a roadway of one hundred feet, will give to the work a uniformity from which an open viaduct would have detracted. The embankment on the south side of the Thames extends from Westminster Bridge to Gunpowder-alley, Vauxhall, about 4300 feet. About eight acres and a half of the ground form the site of the proposed new St. Thomas's Hospital, the foundation-stone of which was laid by her Majesty on May 13 last.

**NEW STREET FROM BLACKFRIARS BRIDGE TO THE MANSION HOUSE.**—This street will extend from the termination of the northern embankment, at Blackfriars Bridge, to the Mansion House, and the total length will be 3450 ft., and its width 70 ft. As the line taken by the street passes through some of the old City burial-grounds, it became necessary to make arrangements for the removal and reinterment of the coffins and human remains. A contract has been entered into to remove the remains and reinter them in the Great Northern Cemetery, for the sum of £350. The claims for property required were £2,526,682 19s. 1d., which were settled for £1,938,217 18s.

**COAL AND WINE DUTIES CONTINUANCE.**—The coal and wine duties are to be continued to 1889, for freeing from toll the following bridges over the Thames—viz., Kew, Kingston, Hampton Court, Walton, and Staines; and Chingford and Tottenham Mills Bridge, on the River Lea.

**OPEN SPACES FOR HEALTH AND RECREATION.**—The demand for building-ground near the metropolis, arising from its rapid extension and the removal of dwellings, chiefly those of the poor, which has become necessary to carry out the extensive railway and other public works in progress, gives an importance to the subject of open space which has never before attached to it. The board are fully alive to the necessity, which springs out of the rapid extension of the metropolis, of securing absolutely as much open space as shall provide for the inhabitants of London and its suburbs the proper means of health and recreation.

**FINSBURY AND SOUTHWARK PARKS.**—These parks will be completed during the ensuing spring, and will shortly after be available for the use of the public. The area of Finsbury Park is 116 acres, and Southwark sixty-three acres; at a cost respectively of £56,869 and £55,160.

**FIRE BRIGADE.**—The arrangements of the board for the protection of life and property from fire throughout the area under their jurisdiction are advancing rapidly towards completion. Two years and a half have now elapsed since the Metropolitan Fire Brigade Act came into operation, and a comparison of the means now at command for extinguishing fires with those which were in existence when the board assumed the duty will suffice to show the progress and extensions which have been effected. The number of stations handed over to the board by the late London Fire Engine Establishment was seventeen, exclusive of two floating engines on the river. There are now forty-four stations on land and three on the river. The number of men forming the staff of the brigade when it came under the jurisdiction of the board was 139, the present number is 314. The number of fires attended was 1492, and 2090 chimney fires; and, as regards the latter, in 1528 cases penalties were imposed by magistrates.

**GAS SUPPLY.**—This important subject has again, during the past year, been much under the consideration of the board, and it has led to some useful legislation in the past Session. Gas will, after Jan. 1, 1870, be supplied at a price not exceeding 3s. 9d. per 1000 cubic feet for common gas of an illuminating power of not less than sixteen candles, subject to revision every year by the Board of Trade.

**IMPROVEMENTS BY LOCAL BOARDS.**—The board have, upon the application of several local authorities during the past year, agreed to contribute to the cost of widening various thoroughfares in the city of London and other parts of the metropolis. The estimated cost of these improvements was £99,797 5s., and the board agreed to contribute £33,123 2s. 6d.

**FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS OF THE BOARD.**—At the date of the last report an amount of £15,843 18s. 5d. remained due to the board from the Bank of London; this sum has since been paid, together with £1658 19s. 11d. for interest. During the past year loans have been paid off to the amount of £261,990, but new loans have been entered into amounting to £1,180,000. The total indebtedness of the board at the present time is £6,903,366 13s. 4d.

**STORAGE OF PETROLEUM.**—A bill was introduced by her Majesty's Government during the past Session to extend the provisions of the Petroleum Act of 1862, which was passed; and the board trust that the effect of the measure will be to promote the better observance of the law on the part of the dealers in petroleum and other substances of a similar nature.

**FORMATION OF STREETS.**—Since their constitution the board have sanctioned the formation of upwards of 1300 streets; the applications during the past year having been 288, of which 202 were granted and eighty-six refused.

**NAMES OF STREETS AND NUMBERS OF HOUSES.**—During the year orders have been transmitted for renumbering streets, by which means 466 subsidiary names have been abolished, and precision of reference much simplified, to the great convenience of the public. A very large number of streets still need revision as to their naming and numbering; and as the requisite operations are necessarily slow, and great accuracy is required, it will probably be some time before the current demands are satisfied.

**GENERAL SUMMARY.**—During the twelve years which have elapsed since the constitution of the board they have expended large sums in carrying out the objects contemplated by the Local Management Act of 1855, and various other statutes passed in subsequent years, under which largely-extended duties have devolved upon them; and these sums have been uniformly



raised by local taxation on the occupiers of property within the metropolitan area, the only exceptions being the coal and wine duties, the Government contribution of £10,000 per annum, and the annual amount received from fire insurance companies in aid of the fire brigade. There is no doubt that, in return for the taxation, the inhabitants of London and its suburbs have received great benefits from the works of the board, amongst which, as the most prominent, may be mentioned the system of main drainage, the embankments of the river, the formation of new thoroughfares, the establishment of parks, and the preservation of open spaces. Beyond these there are many minor improvements which the board have from time to time aided the local authorities in carrying out by granting pecuniary contributions. But notwithstanding that much has been done during the past few years for improving the condition of the metropolis, it is clear that its growing requirements will be very far from met unless additional facilities for traffic are provided, commons and open spaces secured, and other works executed, which will necessarily involve a large expenditure. The board entertain a hope that the attention of the Legislature will shortly be directed to the important question of readjusting the taxation between the owners and occupiers of property in the metropolis, and that ultimately the requisite revenue will be placed at the disposal of the board without the necessity for imposing additional burdens on those who are already so heavily taxed.

### THE FRENCH ATLANTIC CABLE.

THE manufacture of the telegraphic cable which it is proposed to submerge between France and America next summer proceeds with satisfactory rapidity. The cable is to start from the French coast at or near Brest, and to be laid across the Atlantic to the French island of St. Pierre, off the American continent, a distance of 2325 miles. Communication with the mainland will be effected by means of an additional line which will be laid from the island to, probably, some point in the State of New York. This will represent a further distance of about 722 miles, so that the whole length of the two sections of the system will be about 3047 nautical miles. These figures, however, only indicate the length in miles as it would be calculated without reference to submergence. A certain amount of slack cable will be necessary for the process of "paying out," and also as a provision against such an accident as that which caused the failure of the Cuba and Florida expedition. With the addition of slack line, then, the deep-sea cable—the lower section—will be about 2788 miles, including 145 for shore ends, and the auxiliary line, 775 miles, so that altogether a total length of 3563 nautical miles of line will be manufactured for the purposes of the proposed expedition. The consistency of the deep-sea cable will be similar to that of the Atlantic lines already submerged. The insulated core is strengthened with a "serving" of tanned jute, and is protected with ten galvanised homogeneous iron wires, served helically round the core, each iron wire being first strengthened with strands of Manila hemp saturated with tar. The shore ends attached to the deep-sea cable will be of different weights, an intermediate section next the main line weighing about 6 tons, and the heavy end on the shore about 20 tons. The heavy shore end will be of great strength, as it will have an ordinary sheathing served with hemp, and another with stranded wires, servings of hemp, and asphalt, forming an additional protection. An ordinary wire sheathing of ten galvanised iron wires will be used in the construction of the section which will connect the island of St. Pierre with the continent of America. This covering will also be protected with servings of hemp and asphalt. In the construction of the cable the greatest care is observed that all the materials employed in its manufacture be of unquestionable excellence. The copper wire received at the gutta-percha works, where the insulated core is being made, is first tested, that its quality and conductivity may be ascertained. When it has passed the necessary tests, it is forthwith prepared for forming the conductor, which consists of a strand of seven wires. In this part of the manufacture the centre wire is passed through a bath containing a mixture of tar and gutta-percha, known as "Chatterton's compound," before it receives any of the remaining six wires, which are subsequently wound round it—the object of this process being to prevent water permeating through the strands of the conductor. The stranded conductor then receives alternate coats of Chatterton's compound and gutta-percha until it assumes the required consistency. The core for the deep-sea cable is to be of the following weight:—Conductor, 400 lb.; insulator, 400 lb.; total, 800 lb. per mile. For the shallow section—conductor, 107 lb.; insulator, 150 lb.; total, 257 lb. per mile. It may be incidentally remarked that the insulated core is larger than that of any other cable hitherto constructed, if the old Malta and Alexandria line be alone excepted. When the core has been insulated it is kept for twenty-four hours in water at a temperature of 75 deg. Fahrenheit, and is then subjected to a series of electrical tests. Having passed this examination, it is wound round drums and forwarded to the works, where the final sheathing is put on, and it is then coiled away in tanks until its removal to the ship from which it is to be "paid out." Most favourable reports of the progress of the manufacture have, we understand, been given by the electricians who have tested the portion of the cable already constructed. Joins in the core have frequently presented serious difficulties to engineers and others engaged in the extension of submarine telegraphy; in the case of the new line, it is probable that these difficulties will be almost entirely obviated; for, of 320 joints examined, only one has been found in any degree defective. About 600 miles of the deep-sea cable have been already manufactured, at a rate of about eighty-five miles a week. The Great Eastern is being fitted up with tanks for the reception of the cable. These will be three in number, of which the largest will be 75 ft. in diameter and 16½ ft. high. The cable will be conveyed to the "big ship" in hulks fitted with water-tight tanks. The shipping is expected to begin about the second week in January.

**DEATH OF SIR RICHARD MAYNE, K.C.B.**—Sir Richard Mayne, Chief Commissioner of Metropolitan Police, died last Saturday night, at his house in Chester-square, having recently undergone two operations that produced an exhaustion of the system, from which the patient could not rally. The late Commissioner was the son of Mr. Justice Mayne, an Irish Judge, and was born in 1796. He took his degree at Trinity College, Dublin; and subsequently became a member of the Society of Lincoln's Inn. In 1829, just after the Emancipation question was disposed of, Sir Robert Peel said, in his place in Parliament, that "he was desirous of leading the House to the consideration of a topic of considerable interest as respected the preservation of the rights of property, as well as the protection of the persons of His Majesty's subjects;" and, after giving a detailed account of the very unsatisfactory condition of the system then in vogue for protecting persons and property, he proceeded to introduce his bill for the establishment of the present metropolitan police. The idea of a regular system of police was then quite new to the British public, which associated the name with all that was arbitrary and un-English. It was asserted that the new "Peeler" would be a spy upon the action of every honest citizen; that an Englishman's house would no longer be his castle; and that he would be under the control of a force which, whilst executing odious detective duties, would, as regards discipline and accoutrements, be invested with a military character. To allay these dire apprehensions on the part of the ten-pound householder, and to dissipate the notion that the new invention was to be a political engine, Mr. Mayne, a quiet young barrister, who at the same time happened to be a selected for the office of Commissioner, and although during the past few years there may have been good reason to complain of an absence of thorough efficiency on the part of the force which he controlled, still, it may fairly be urged that in his time Sir Richard did good service; more recent defects in the police being attributable in some degree to his increasing years and consequent infirmity. It may be remembered that upon the late Commissioner, then a young man, chiefly devolved the onerous task of organising the force at its outset; and that he successfully carried out the arrangements of the Exhibition of 1851 at a time when the management of such undertakings was unknown. Sir Richard leaves a wife and several children. His eldest son is an officer in the Royal Navy. The funeral of Sir Richard Mayne took place, on Wednesday, at Kensal-green. In accordance with one of the last wishes of the deceased, the ceremony was conducted in the plainest manner. A subscription has been set on foot among the members of the police force to erect a memorial to their late Chief Commissioner.

### Literature.

*Blondel Parva.* By the Author of "Lost Sir Massingberd," &c. Two vols. London: Bradbury, Evans, and Co.

Captain Marryatt remarks of novel-writing that it involves three difficult things:—"The first is the beginning, the second is the middle, and the third is the end;" and everybody will remember Lord Byron's "Nothing so difficult as a beginning in poetry, except, perhaps, the end." The author of "Lost Sir Massingberd" reminds us of these troubles of great authorities, because he has evidently never experienced them. As for the difficulty of a beginning, "Blondel Parva" begins exactly at the point where plenty of novels leave off—a proposal of marriage; and as for the difficulty of an ending, the story is quite complete in two volumes instead of the ordinary three. And so it will be seen that there is some originality about "Blondel Parva;" but we are bound to say that the merits in that way are fully counterbalanced by the average supply of fictional conventionalities. If the writer of a novel be only a little less satisfied with Fate than is the author of "Guy Livingstone," every reader recognises the good hero and heroine as soon as possible, and is assured that no evil fortune can ultimately prevail against them. As much as that may even be safely predicated with regard to "Ouida's" brilliant illusions of human nature in "Chandos," "Idalia," &c. The merits of "Blondel Parva" are of the modest kind. The story will be easily detected, and nobody will read on in fear and trembling for the sakes of the sometime unhappy people in whom we are interested. The wicked always cease to trouble by the time the printers are at rest after the labour of the third volume; and yet, knowing all this, a compliment is due to the writer of the novel before us for the literary skill which just keeps the heart sufficiently fluttered throughout. The prime scoundrel of the story is Richard Anstey, who is waiting for his dying uncle's shoes, baronetcy, and fortune; but he does not know but that the fortune may have been left to his very, very distant cousin, Kate Irby. By way of making this position comfortable for both—or it might be called "hedging" on the turf—he offers to marry his cousin in the event of either contingency. This shameful offer is of course rejected. Before long the old Baronet dies, telling Richard that he is heir to all, excepting £500 left to Kate, and enjoining him to give Kate the sum of £10,000, in compensation for something like a fraud of the Baronet's on Kate's father. But the nephew, the new Sir Richard, burns the will, and resolves that Kate shall have nothing unless she marries him. However, there has been a witness to the crime of burning the will. At this point the real complication of the story sets in vigorously. Ten years before the story opens Kate's father is supposed to have been drowned, and she and her mother have been since living in comfort on the heavy assurances effected on his life. But suddenly there is no doubt that he is quite alive, though beggared and dying; and Sir Richard uses this knowledge as a hold over Kate, who would consent to almost any sacrifice rather than see her father branded as a felon—for he had played a part against the assurance companies in pretending to be drowned and washed out to sea. In this dilemma she is assisted—and of course finally saved—by the shrewd sagacity and perseverance of her accepted lover, Mr. Maurice Glyn, who, indeed, is, in the end, the means of achieving wonders, and terminating a well-written story in a manner satisfactory to all readers who like to hear of young and of old people in books ending happily. The characters of Kate and Glyn are pleasant and natural—the latter is even sparkling. The Curate and his Mary are of a different stamp, and they blend rather than contrast; whilst the old lady, Mrs. Irby, is certainly the freshest old lady of the good and vulgar kind that we have met for some time. Here and there we find human nature somewhat tedious, as in the case of the beggared father and the blind keeper of the Priory ruins; and the author must really understand that people do not call each other "Dear heart!" every ten minutes. However, we will suppose that it will do for Devonshire—and that county, by-the-way, gives opportunity for some excellent descriptions of scenery.

*Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Scotsmen.* Edinburgh and London: Blackie and Son.

This is the first volume of a new edition of the original work, bearing the same title, which was edited by Mr. Robert Chambers. The collection is now brought down to the present time, many new names being added, so that the entire number of biographies will, as the editor (the Rev. Thomas Thompson) informs us, exceed 700. In what is essentially a compilation of already-published facts and memoirs original information is, of course, not to be looked for; but a careful examination of this first volume convinces us of the completeness of the collection so far as it is here presented. Statesmen, soldiers, men eminent in science and letters, divines, patriots, and martyrs; we tax memory in vain for the name of one not to be found in this collection. The work, of course, possesses a special interest in Scotland; but far from an exclusive one. Since the Union, and even long before it, eminent Scotsmen were illustrations not only of their nation but of the times in which they lived. Their influence extended to the whole empire, and in many instances far beyond its limits; and Scottish intellect and valour have undeniably given an indelible impress to the character of the entire kingdom, and have had no small share in shaping its destinies. This fact makes the "Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Scotsmen" as valuable and interesting on the south side the Tweed as on the other. The biographies, the space allotted to each of which is carefully proportioned to the importance of the subject, are in many cases illustrated with well-executed engravings on steel from original portraits. The work, we should add, is to be completed in three volumes, and is at present issued only to subscribers. It will form a valuable addition to any library.

*The Echoes' Cartoons and Lyrics of the Time.* First Series. London: Office of Echoes from the Clubs.

The most of the plates in this handsome volume are reprinted from the popular periodical called *Echoes from the Clubs*, and are satires upon the manners, follies, and characteristics of the age. Some of the drawings—such as "The Half-way House," "Next Door Neighbours," and "Pig-headed Ritualism"—are very effective as caricatures of the tendencies of the Ritualists; while others, like "Volunteer Life at Wimbledon," are excellent pictures of real scenes. In the "Girl of the Period," "The Husband's Friend," "Co-operative Society," "The Belgravian Kettledrum," and others, we have capital satires upon the characteristics, or alleged characteristics, of the rising female generation; and, though a few of the themes treated are a little stale, and others not in the best taste, the book as a whole is good, as far as the illustrations are concerned. Of the "Lyrics" we can scarcely say so much, for we cannot help thinking that they are barely worthy of the pictures. The book is beautifully printed, and is a really elegant volume, which cannot fail both to please and amuse the denizens of the drawing-room, though it may "wring the withers" of some parties whose foibles are held up to ridicule. We hope to see more "Echoes' Cartoons," with improved "Lyrics," by-and-by. We reserve mention of the plate entitled "Turning the Corner," for the purpose of protesting against the size of the horses' heads. Did any mortal man ever see high-bred racers with such enormous coarse caputs? Why, they are big enough for Barclay and Perkins's dray-horses. Go study Shakespeare's description of a horse in "Venus and Adonis," ye draughtsmen, and be wise.

*Sunbeam Stories.* By the Author of "A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam." Third Series. With Illustrations by James Godwin, &c. London: Lockwood and Co.

The long number of stories by Miss Planché, who commenced so felicitously with the poetic tale, "A Trap to Catch a Sunbeam,"

needs no recognition from us, or from anybody, except the recognition of a new edition. This is the third series of a collected edition of the stories, quite complete in itself, and containing "The Dream Chintz" and "Sibert's Wold." When there are many in a family, it is surprising how tastes differ in the settlement of life. "Those we love first are taken first," says Tennyson; but then he is speaking of death, not of love and marriage. However, in the present case, our earlier loves may have been with the earlier books; but now, at least, we are satisfied with the things as they come, and the "Dream Chintz" and "Sibert's Wold" are pleasant enough—as, indeed, they have been found to be a long time ago. Fame, or whatever it is to be the verdict, is "over their living heads already bent," as far as time goes, for Mr. Godwin (or, rather, another) gives a picture of a marriage procession which involves antiquity in costume far beyond our knowledge, since modern evening dress is substituted for modern morning wear. Such pictures as the one mentioned should be carefully omitted from good books; but we cannot think it to be Mr. Godwin's.

### BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

"*Ridicula Rediviva*" (Macmillan and Co.) contains capital specimens of those quaint drawings in the German toy or Noah's ark style for which the artist, Mr. J. G. Rogers, has a reputation. The nature of the subjects treated in "Ridicula Rediviva," which are very funnily rendered, may be best indicated by the list of contents, which runs thus:—"Little Miss Muffet, she sat on a tuffet;" "Three wise men of Gotham;" "A man went a-hunting at Reigate;" "There was a little man, and he had a gun;" "Little Tommy Tucker, sing for your supper;" "Old Boniface he loved good cheer;" "Jack Sprat could eat no fat;" "Little Jack Jell was put on a shelf;" "Mistress Mary, quite contrary;" "Little Miss Lily, you're dreadfully silly;" "Who comes here? A grenadier;" "Little Jack Horner sat in a corner." This book is sure to be a favourite.

"The Language of Flowers," by Dr. Robert Tyas (Routledge and Sons), is a volume for the drawing-room table or the young lady's boudoir; and is as dainty nearly as a natural floral garland itself. The "Language of Flowers" undoubtedly responds to a universal instinct in the nature of the fairer portion of humanity; and, like everything sentimental and pure, constitutes one of the pleasant graces of existence. The book before us contains all that is known of the science and vocabulary of this agreeable mode of exchanging thoughts and feelings on love, affection, and friendship; and much useful botanical information is, besides, interspersed throughout its pages. The illustrations are, we need scarcely say, accurately drawn and beautifully coloured; and there is a full "index of sentiments."

Of Mrs. Jameson's "Memoirs of Celebrated Female Sovereigns" a fourth edition is published by Messrs. Routledge and Sons (London). This is a well-known book, and well adapted for girls over eleven or twelve. It is a harsh word to apply to the writing of a woman like the late Mrs. Jameson, but her moral criticism is acrid, if not truculent; and though she obviously endeavours to do justice, she cuts up her "female Sovereigns" in the remorseless manner proper to women dissecting women. The book is a curious study in this respect; but, of course, that is nothing to the young ladies, for whom it is so favourite a volume.

One of the best child's books of the season is "Cloudland and Shadowland," by J. Thackeray Bance (Cassell and Co., London). We have a vague idea of having seen the name of the author before, but certainly it was not in connection with anything so good as this little quarto, or we should have remembered it. The publishers have had the good sense to print the book in fine large type, and we hope it will have a great success. Now and then there is a false touch—for instance, that passage about Wind-bags on page 140 following close upon that capital hit about the Draughts.

Amongst some other unexceptionably good books, Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin send us two which must be strongly recommended to the notice of tiny people. They are "Aesop's Fables" and "Sandford and Merton," both done into words of one syllable, by Miss Mary Godolphin. No word is wanted in praise of either volume, since all the world recognises the plain beauty of the fables, and nobody knows to this day which to laugh at most—the stupidity of Tommy Merton or the "priggishness" of Harry Sandford. No books ever had better reputations amongst children. In the one-syllable form, they are handsomely printed on strong paper, and are adorned with many engravings in showy colours.

"Stories from Germany," translated (and slightly altered) by Annie Harwood, of whom we have already said something in a previous notice, is a book that comes from Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton. The tales appear to be reprinted from "Merry and Wise," and they are good enough to be worth it.

From the same publishers we have "Queer Discourses on Queer Proverbs," by Old Merry. This is at least a harmless book, and will even be belished by those children, if any, who love moralising. We suppose Old Merry does not pretend to originality; but at all events some of the matter in this book is glaringly American.

Messrs. Hatchard and Co. have issued a curious little book, which seems admirably fitted to be read aloud to children; for when children are old enough to read comfortably to themselves they will feel a little above it. It is called "Grandmamma; a Tale for Children," and is written by Miss Emma Davenport, author of "Live Toys," &c. It simply recounts how grandmamma, day by day, tells her little Cecil and Caroline how things went on in the days of her childhood and youth, in which they are much interested, and ask questions on all kinds of subjects, until the young ones are sent off to play and the amiable old lady takes a nap. It will serve to teach children how much better off they are than their grandmothers were seventy years ago, and perhaps that will keep them a little quiet. There is a pleasing engraving of grandmamma, and it is described as "a portrait."

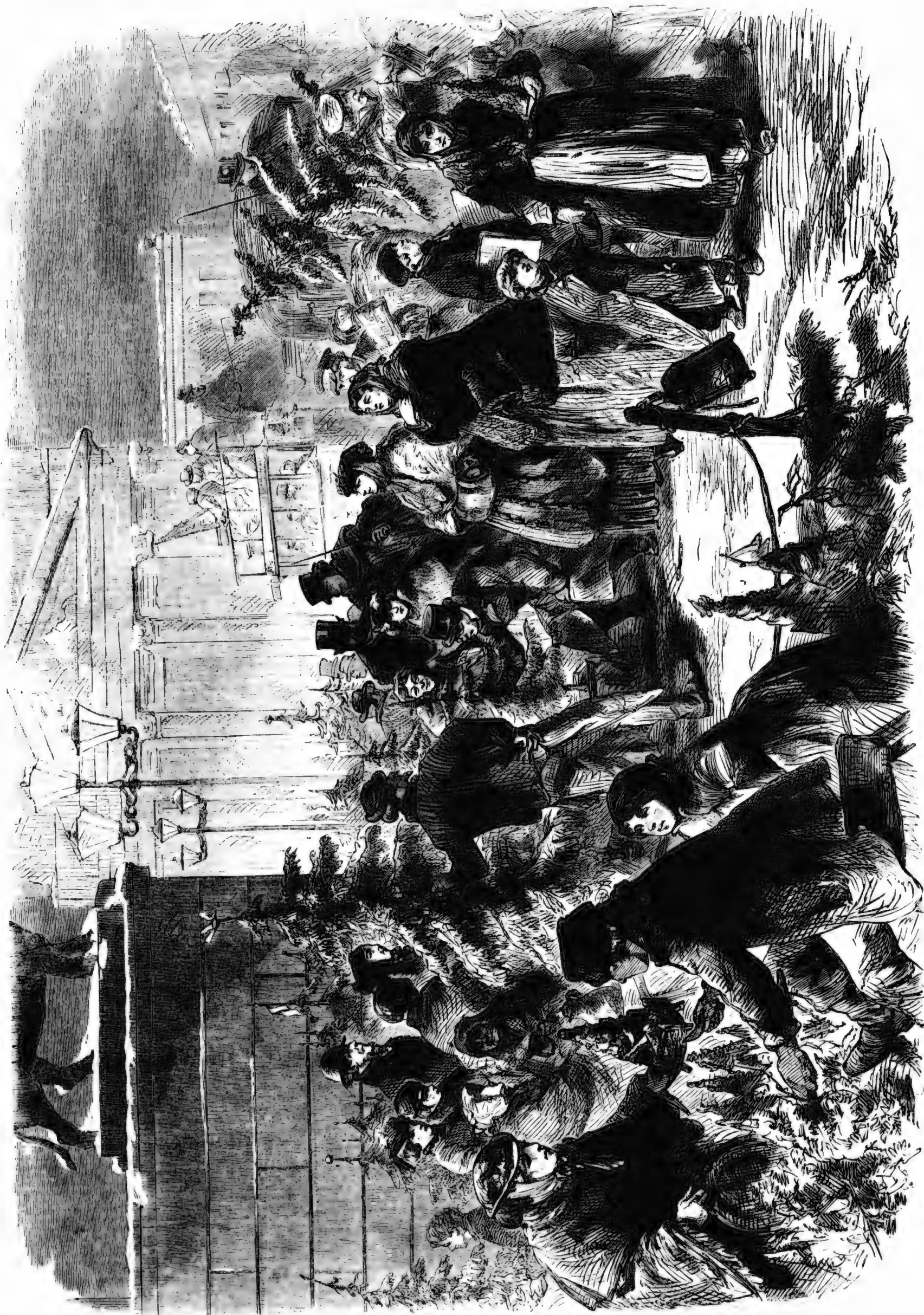
"Merry Tales for Little Folk," edited by Madame De Chatelain, and published by Messrs. Lockwood and Co., is a portly little volume, which at once disarms us. Every word it contains seems as fresh in the memory as it did some—a good many—years ago. It begins with the series of nursery ballads ranging from "The House that Jack Built" to "Old Mother Hubbard." Then there are some equally "traditional" stories—the two "Jacks," "Guy of Warwick," "Tom Thumb," &c.; with dozens of poetical pieces from Fennell, Madame D'Aulnoy, Grimm, Anderson, and others; and even one attributed to Goldsmith. There are one hundred illustrations to this capital collection of tales—graceful and amusing, and sure to contribute much to juvenile delight.

**A SERGEANT IN THE ROYAL ARTILLERY**, now stationed at Dover Castle, has given himself up to the local authorities, stating that he had murdered his wife by poisoning her. The occurrence took place nearly two years ago, and at an inquest held at the time a verdict was returned, upon the evidence of the man now in custody, that the woman had died from the effects of poison administered by herself. The magistrates have remanded the case for a week.

**FEARFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.**—A terrible explosion occurred at noon on Wednesday at the Haydock Colliery, in the Queen pit, belonging to Richard Evans and Co., near St. Helen's, seven miles from Wigan. Twenty-two lives were lost and several men severely injured. Mr. Higson, the Government Inspector, says the mine was excellently managed. The cause of the explosion is not known, although it is rumoured that there had been an illegal removal of the brattice cloth. The shock was very violent, shattering the rails and the tubs into splinters. This is the third fatal colliery explosion that has occurred in the vicinity of Wigan within a few weeks.

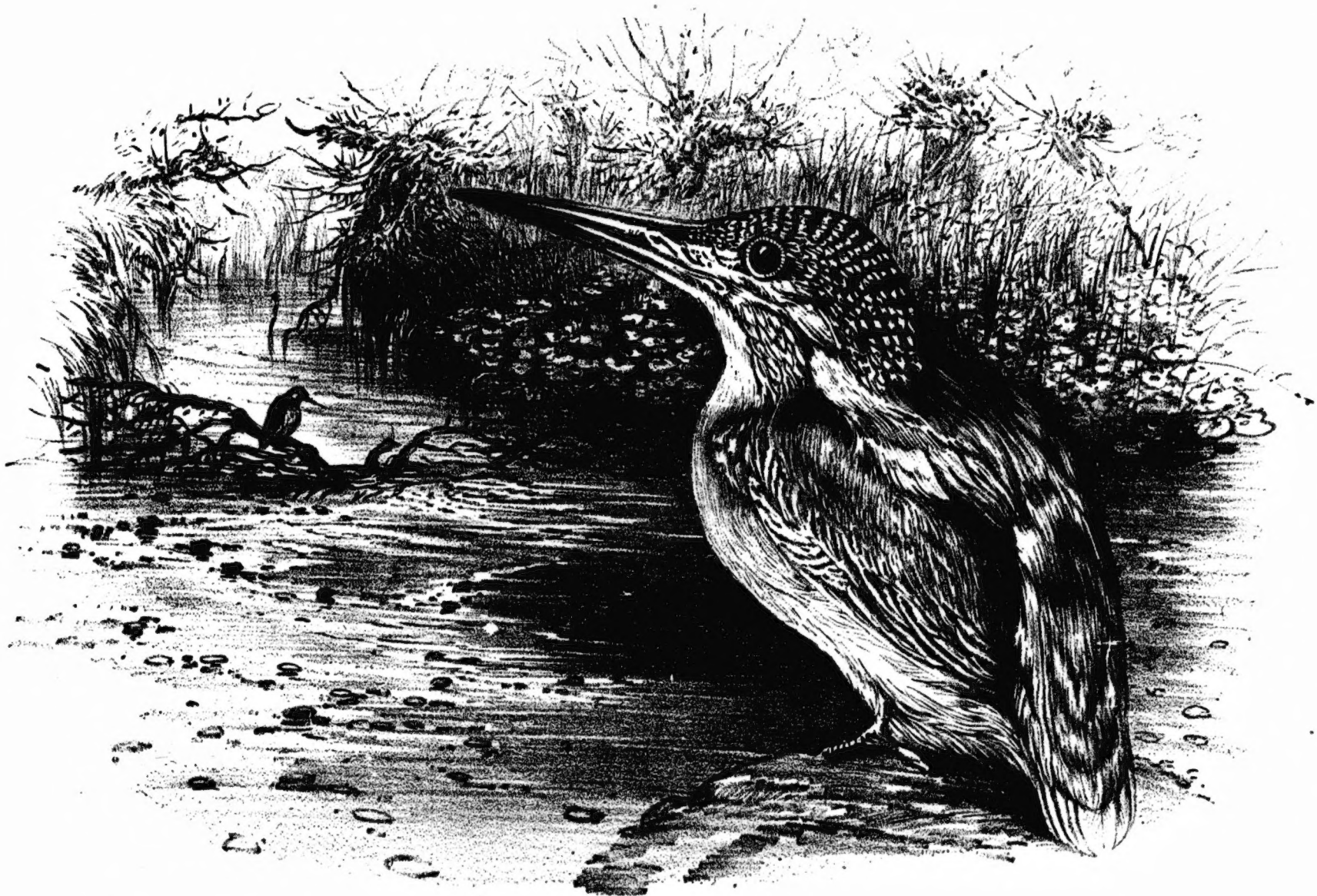
**LIFE AND DEATH IN ST. GILES'S.**—One of those shocking cases of overcrowding which form the very worst, because the most demoralising, evil of poverty, came to light at an inquest held, on Tuesday, on the body of a woman, found dead, as the jury put it, on a floor in St. Giles's. The room in which she died must have been a frightful place. It was 10 ft. by 12 ft., and barely 8 ft. in height. It did not contain a particle of furniture, and it was occupied by five persons, who slept on the bare boards, and had nothing but a rug to cover them. The Coroner and jury seemed disposed to censure the parish inspectors, but with what justice may be judged from it was shown that since the death of the woman an inspector had visited the place!





NOVEL " IN GERMANY: BUYING CHRISTMAS TREES IN BERLIN.





THE KINGFISHER.



THE CADIZ INSURRECTION: REMOVAL OF WOUNDED FROM THE ALAMEDA-SQUARE.—SEE PAGE 3



## CHRISTMAS EVE IN GERMANY.

THE great event of Christmastide in Berlin, as well as in other parts of Germany, is the provision of a Christmas-tree. At this season of the year the foresters, who bring to the capital the best-shaped and most complete miniature fir-trees, make a pretty penny by their speculations; and as the home-loving Berliners would not consider the Christmas fireside complete without the graceful greenery of the children's holiday symbol, an immense number of the young plantations must be devoted entirely to the growth of these unfading family trophies. The purchase of oranges, sweets, and comfits even, is quite a secondary matter until the tree is bought, and there is no little anxiety displayed as to its size, the spread of its branches, and its completely conical shape. Then, when it is at length secured and borne home in triumph, the speculations as to its capacity for bearing its glittering burden of Christmas fruits give place to the delight of decking it with all those splendid *cadeaux* which are to be distributed to relations and friends. That must be a poor family indeed in which one of these pretty trees does not hold the place of honour among the household joys of Christmastide; and, whether it be a tiny shrub, large enough to hold a dozen candles and a few cheap toys, or a goodly young forest tree all aglow with a thousand tapers and loaded with costly gifts and ornaments of price, it is of as great national significance as our own plum-pudding, while its pleasures are, perhaps, more lasting, and its penalties less to be dreaded. In Berlin some of the principal corners of the city are depôts at Christmastide for the sale of these young fir trees; and to a stranger who visits the Prussian capital for the first time at this season, one of the pleasantest excursions to be made is a stroll through the thoroughfares on Christmas Eve.

THE "COUNTESS OF DERWENTWATER."—The "Countess of Derwentwater" is now preparing for a new trial, at London, to set aside the decision of the magistrates at Hexham as to "her Ladyship being an obstruction on the highway." Mr. Mellish, Q.C., has been retained to watch the case on behalf of her Ladyship. The illness of her Ladyship, caused by the fatigue and wet whilst encompas at Dilston, is quite gone. She occupies her time in arranging the "family papers" for a fresh start for the recovery of her estates.

HOBART PACHA AND THE ENOSIS.—The *Levant Herald* of the 18th ult. gives the following particulars of the passage of arms between the *Enosis* and the *Enosis*:—"On Dec. 14 the *Enosis* was pursued by the *Izzedin* into the waters of Aspronissi, three miles from Syria. The *Izzedin* fired, it is said, a blank cartridge, to which the *Enosis* replied by a shot which damaged the paddle of the Turkish steamer. The latter then asked help from the Admiral's frigate, which was in view. Hobart Pacha then approached and opened fire on the *Enosis*, which replied with shell, smashing the frigate's boats and doing other injury. This done, she entered the port of Syria. Hobart Pacha followed with his frigate and the *Izzedin*. As soon as he anchored he demanded that a tribunal, of which the foreign Consuls should form part, should pronounce as to whether the *Enosis* had not committed an act of piracy in firing on a ship of war, and if she and the *Crete* should not be given over to the Turkish authorities. The *Nomarch* answered that he had no instructions. He then went on board the Turkish frigate, accompanied by two Consuls, and examined the damage done by the shell of the *Enosis*. At the same time he sent off the *Panbellinon* to the *Pireus*, and on her arrival the Greek Government at once dispatched the *Hellas*, with 1300 troops on board. On the arrival of the Greek frigate her commander summoned Hobart Pacha to clear out; and the latter, being also "without instructions," obeyed, and went to sea."

THE MUSICAL PITCH.—We understand that the lowering of the musical pitch in England is shortly about to assume a practical form. The letter of Mr. Sims Reeves addressed to the *Athenæum*, in which he positively refuses to sing at the Sacred Harmonic Society whilst the present high pitch is maintained, has decided the matter; and as most of the competent musicians of the country are, to our knowledge, ranged on his side, there can be little doubt that, whatever may be the difficulties to be overcome, the change must be made. During the ensuing season a series of six concerts will be given at St. James's Hall, at which the standard French pitch will be adopted. These concerts will consist exclusively of sacred music (and mostly of oratorios), and Mr. Sims Reeves has pledged himself to sing at each performance. Amongst the works to be given, Handel's "Jephtha" will be one of the most interesting, not only on account of its being almost a novelty to a London audience, but because the tenor part is so peculiarly fitted to the grandeur and power of Mr. Reeves's style and voice. There will be a carefully-chosen band, of between fifty and sixty performers, and the chorus will consist of Mr. Joseph Barnby's choir. We have always been of opinion that a certain coarseness of effect observable in most of our oratorio performances in the metropolis is inseparable from the prevailing notion that quantity rather than quality should be put forth as the real attraction; and we look forward, therefore, with the utmost interest to a series of concerts in which delicacy and refinement, both with the choir and orchestra, may be shown to be compatible with energy, precision, and true musical power.—*Musical Times*.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—Another accident happened, on Christmas Day, on one of the Welsh lines, which forcibly recalls the Abergele catastrophe. Thirteen coal-laden trucks appear to have been on a siding, without sufficient brake-power to overcome their natural tendency to rush down an incline of one in forty, existing at that portion of the line. Having acquired a considerable momentum, the waggons began moving, and continued, with increased velocity, an unattended journey for seven or eight miles. Perceiving that something was wrong, one of the officers at a station the carriages were approaching had the presence of mind to direct the runaways into a goods-shed, through which they dashed, destroying considerable property, but, no doubt, saving many lives. Had the progress of the waggons not thus been interrupted, they would have run on until they had probably come into collision with a train due from Cardiff.—The 2.30 p.m. passenger-train from Birmingham to Leamington, on the London and North-Western line, met with an accident on Christmas Day. When near Kenilworth station, the engine left the rails, and dragged four carriages, containing passengers, after it. It is supposed that the mishap was occasioned by the engine striking the facing points which are on the Coventry side of the station. On leaving the rails, the wheels of the engine and tender sank to a great depth in the ballast, and the passenger-carriages narrowly escaped being overturned. At the time of the occurrence, the engine-driver was slackening the speed of the train preparatory for the usual stoppage in the station, and this fortunate circumstance explains the small amount of mischief resulting from the accident. Several of the passengers were slightly shaken and alarmed, but none received any injury. After the accident had happened, information was telegraphed up and down the line, and in a short time several of the company's officials were on the spot, and a gang of labourers having been sent for, the repairs were proceeded with as quickly as possible. The passengers were carried on to Leamington by a special train. The line between Coventry and Leamington was blocked throughout the remainder of Christmas Day, and all through the night. While the repairs were being carried on, the traffic from Leamington to Coventry and back was worked via Rugby. The line was opened early on Saturday morning. This makes the fourth accident which has happened on this line within the past three or four months.

THE MEYRICK COLLECTION OF ANCIENT ARMOUR.—This celebrated collection of armour, as our readers are aware, has been lent by Colonel Meyrick to the South Kensington Museum authorities, and can now be seen gratuitously by the public. The various descriptions of old armour, &c., constituting Colonel Meyrick's collection are now arranged in chronological order, in the gallery facing the Horticultural Gardens, lately occupied by the National Portrait Exhibition. The collection was thrown open to the public on Saturday, and will, we understand, remain for general inspection some considerable length of time. The curiosity and interest displayed by the thousands of visitors—mostly working people—who on Saturday and Monday thronged the galleries devoted to Colonel Meyrick's Collection, gratifyingly proved that the history of England not alone possesses attractions for the present generation of working people, but that they have become more conversant with it than it is generally believed. Certainly, the public of the present day—so far, at all events, as the metropolis is concerned—have every facility afforded to them of gaining knowledge on almost every useful subject, what with our museums, exhibitions, literary institutions, and working-men's clubs. Foremost amongst these excellent means of training and developing the public mind is the South Kensington Museum. Recent improvements and extensions have made this institution perhaps the most entertaining and instructive place in the metropolis to which the public have the privilege of a free entrance. The Meyrick Collection adds immensely to the many attractions of the South Kensington Museum. Visitors to the museum have only to cross the Exhibition-road to pass into where Colonel Meyrick's armoury is to be seen. The collection includes armour worn as far back as the time when Herulaneum flourished, and coming up to the Cromwellian age, most of it in capital condition. A good deal of the armour is fitted on men and horses as the heroes of the periods represented might have appeared in action. In other apartments in the same wing of the building are to be seen specimens of modern warlike appliances of the latest and best description, with models and photographs of their mode of manufacture and use; also models of improved dockyards, and an extensive array of architectural models and building appliances of improved descriptions. This is a new branch of the South Kensington Museum. A vast amount of information can be gained by its inspection for a few hours. To the working classes this addition to the museum is particularly valuable.

## THE LATE MR. A. COOPER, R.A.

A VACANCY has been caused in the ranks of our ex-Royal Academicians by the death of Mr. Abraham Cooper, the eminent painter of battle-pieces, and who, at his retirement, was one of the oldest members of that body; his decease happened on Thursday, Dec. 24, at Greenwich, in the eighty-second year of his age. The late artist was born in September, 1787, in Red Lion-street, Holborn, of parents in a humble condition of life, and it was by his own exertions that he rose to the eminence which he eventually attained. He was elected an Associate of the Academy something more than half a century ago, in the days when Benjamin West was president, and attained the full honours of that society in 1820, the same year which witnessed the election of Sir Thomas Lawrence to the presidential chair. In early life he passed much of his time among horses, and to this circumstance must be ascribed the direction in which his artistic talents developed themselves in youth. His first picture, properly so called, was the portrait of a favourite old horse belonging to the late Sir Henry Meux, Bart. By the advice and encouragement of Sir Henry he was led to resolve to devote himself to art in earnest, and in him he found his earliest and most liberal patron while his pencil was unknown. As yet, however, he had no studio but the stable or the grass-field, if we except some stray numbers of the *Sporting Magazine* which fell in his way, illustrated with portraits of hunting and racing favourites by Marshall, the well-known animal-painter of the time. The first picture which he exhibited, however, was quite in a different line of art—it was "Tam O'Shanter," which was hung on the walls of the British Institution in 1814, and afterwards found its way into the gallery of the late Duke of Marlborough. From that year down to a very recent date the name of Mr. Cooper has appeared as a constant exhibitor in the yearly catalogues of the Royal Academy and the British Institution, and as a battle-painter he held a somewhat analogous position to that which Peter Hess at one time held in Germany, and Horace Vernet held for so many years in France, though he could never bear to be compared with his French rival. The list of his principal pictures includes "The Battle of Naseby," "Battle of Marston Moor," "Pride of the Desert," "Blucher at the Battle of Ligny," "Cromwell at Marston Moor," "Lord Arundell Capturing a Turkish Standard" (a commission from Lord Arundell of Wardour), "Arthur Lord Capel Defending Colchester Castle during the Civil War," "The Battle of Shrewsbury," "Sir William Russell at the Battle of Zutphen," "The Death of Harold," "The Battle of Assaye," "The Battle of Waterloo" (engraved by Moon), &c. Several of these and other pictures from his fertile pencil have been purchased by our leading nobility for their private galleries, and with many of them the public have been familiar through the engraver's art. The most widely known and most popular of all, perhaps, is his "Hawking in the Olden Time," the subject of which is one which particularly recommends itself to our English taste for the sports and pastimes of a bygone age. It has been engraved, and, side by side with his "Greeks and Arab Horses," graces the collection of the Marquis of Westminster. Mr. Cooper also exhibited, at various times, "Arab Sheikhs Examining Captives," "Baggage-Waggons Attacked," "Highland Courtship," "Harvest in the Highlands," "The Dead Trooper," "The Return from Deer-Stalking," "The Battle of Lewes." So lately as the year 1867 he exhibited three paintings—"Arabs," "The Painter and his Models," and "Dressing a Fly; a scene in Glen Urquhart, with Urquhart Castle in the distance;" and during last year he exhibited one picture, "A Scene from Don Quixote." The best, perhaps, of all his paintings is "The Battle of the Standard," which was exhibited many years ago. The list of favourite horses, both hunters and racers, which he painted in former days would fill several pages; but he will, perhaps, after all, be best remembered as "the artist of the Cavaliers and Roundheads," a subject of which he never seemed to tire.

THE POOR-LAW BOARD have assessed the several unions and parishes in London to the Metropolitan Common Poor Fund in the sum of £140,707, in respect of the half year ended at Lady Day last. The annual rateable value of the property on which this assessment is made is nearly £17,000,000 sterling. The expenditure repaid out of this fund during the same period exceeded £130,000.

A NEW USE has been found for petroleum refuse, which promises to be highly advantageous to colonists in Canada. By sending a stream of air, by means of an air-pump, through a cask of petroleum or paraffin refuse, it becomes charged with the vapour from the petroleum and burns with the brilliancy of ordinary gas. All that is required is to store the vapour in a gasometer, when it is ready for use. Canada papers state that this new mode of illumination is in very general use in that country.

THE FUTURE OF TRADES UNIONS.—During the month of December the Trades Union Commissioners have held several sittings for the purpose of agreeing upon their report, which it is understood is now completed, and will be laid before Parliament early in the next Session. It is stated that the report will be one of the majority only, and that amongst its leading recommendations will be found that trades unions, under certain limits, should be recognised by law, and their funds placed under its protection; that the rules of these unions should be binding only on their members, and that any attempt to enforce them upon unwilling workmen should be punishable by law; that the utmost freedom of labour should exist in all trades; and that the benevolent and trade funds should be kept entirely distinct, and that no moneys subscribed for benevolent purposes should under any circumstances be applied to trade or other extraneous objects. It is this last recommendation that will meet with the strongest opposition from the large and more influential trade societies, such as the engineers, masons, joiners, bricklayers, plasterers, boiler-makers, &c., on the ground that, having subscribed the money themselves, they have a right to dispose of it in any way they think proper. Already, in anticipation of the report of the Commissioners, the trades and trade councils throughout the country are forming committees to protect the interests of the unions by a united action and opposition to the clauses of any bill that may be laid before Parliament founded on the report of the Commission that may interfere with their fundamental principles and their right to amalgamate their funds if they think proper to do so.

THE AUSTRALIAN MEAT QUESTION.—On Tuesday an interesting meeting was held, under the presidency of the Hon. F. G. Vernon, C.B., Agent-General for Victoria, at Norton-folgate, for the purpose of introducing to notice the steps which have been taken to give the English public the benefits to be derived from a supply of animal food from our Australian colonies. A great many gentlemen connected with the colonies were present, and among others Mr. F. S. Dutton, the Agent-General for South Australia; Mr. W. E. Mayne, Agent-General for New South Wales, as well as many of the metropolitan medical officers of health. The chairman pointed out that the overcoming of the difficulties in the way of obtaining a constant supply of meat from Australia was important in two ways; in the first place, a supply of good meat would be given to this country at a considerably less cost than was now given for meat; and, in the next place, the vast supplies of mutton and beef now melted down in Australia for fat would then be utilised, to the profit of the mother country and the colonies. He went on to describe the many difficulties which had hitherto existed to prevent supplies of the meat reaching this country from Australia, and he stated that the colonists were now so alive to the necessity of finding a market for their plentiful stock that the most energetic measures had been adopted to furnish supplies to Europe. The company present were invited to partake of various dishes and to inspect the meat in its raw and manufactured state, the latter condition referring to sausages and potted meats. It is fair to say that the meat presented to the inspection of the visitors was excellent, and some boiled preserved beef and pie of preserved mutton were all that could be desired; but it was evident that in one or two dishes of mutton the meat had not received the attention it requires before cooking. The meats are packed in large iron cases holding about 2½ tons. Sheep are packed whole, without bone, and cured; and when the iron case is filled with the meat, boiling fat is run into the case, which is then "hermetically sealed" for exportation. The manner of exporting the beef is the same, and it comes to this country in good condition. That exhibited on Tuesday was pronounced to be very fine meat indeed; and, though it is without bone, it is sold at a less price than meat in the London market is sold, even though the latter is weighed to the purchaser with the bones which carry the meat to market. Mr. Morris, a gentleman connected with Australia, stated that experiments were being made in order to bring frozen fresh meat from Australia to Europe, and it was believed success would attend the effort. Mr. Tallerman, on behalf of the shippers of the meat, stated that stores had been opened for the retail sale of the meat in Norton-folgate; and, in order to clear away difficulties, receipts for preparing and cooking the food were given to the purchasers. He also mentioned that the importation of beef and mutton had risen very considerably in the course of the year, and such were the differences in price that potted meats could be supplied at one-eighth the cost charged in London. The dressing of the meat was carried out by Captain Warren's apparatus.

## PROFESSOR HUXLEY ON "THE DISTRIBUTION OF ANIMALS."

On Monday evening, Professor T. H. Huxley, F.R.S., gave a lecture on "The Distribution of Animals," before a very large assemblage of members of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Literary and Philosophical Society, in the theatre of that institution.

The Professor commenced his lecture—which to some extent was prefatory to others intended to be given on "The Past Distribution of Animals," and "The Causes of Distribution"—by observing that in these islands there were animals, indigenous or native, which now inhabited the country, and that there had been others which had inhabited these islands at a former period, and traces of which were found in the deposits immediately preceding the existing state of the earth's surface. And when they came to consider the relation which the animals of these islands bore to those of the Continent, they found that all of them, with the exception of the red grouse, were identical in kind with those living on the continent of Europe; though the island of Great Britain was separated from the Continent by nowhere less than twenty miles of sea. These facts and many others were comprehended in a consideration of the distribution of animals in the British Islands; and as the human mind was never satisfied with the mere statement of a fact, but went back, by an irresistible impulse, further to endeavour to discover what were the causes or conditions of those facts, so they, under the broad head of "distribution," entered upon a discussion of the causes of distribution. The inquiry which naturally arose in their minds was, Why there were certain animals in these islands; what was the reason that those animals were to a great extent identical with those which inhabited the continent of Europe and yet to some extent different; and the reason why those animals were not the same as those which immediately preceded them in the earth's history? All these, and many other questions, were such as naturally arose out of a study of distribution, the problems which had to be solved, and the tracing out of the causes of those circumstances. Now, just as there was a distribution of animals for these islands, so was there for the whole world. Almost every portion had its characteristic indigenous animals, which animals had a closer or more distant relation to the animals of the adjacent part of the earth's surface, and had in every case been preceded by animals more or less similar or dissimilar to them, in former periods of the world's history; and in every case they presented the same sort of problems. The inquiry how had this life come into existence, why was it so similar to other forms of life, or why was it so different; and the statement of these facts—in the first place, the statement of the fact of distribution in the present state of the world; in the second place, the statement of the fact of distribution in antecedent periods of the world's history; and, in the third place, the inquiry into how far our present knowledge enabled us to form some rational conception of the manner in which those things had come about—those constituted topics which he wished to bring before them in that and the two following evenings. The Professor then entered upon an extended consideration of the present distribution of animals, at the outset pointing out that some were confined within very circumscribed limits of the earth's surface. Mr. Gould recorded a species of humming-bird (now extinct) as having been found in a particular crater of the South American Andes; and a remarkable form of armadillo was found only in a very limited region of South America. The common red grouse was limited to these islands. On the other hand, there were animals found over a very wide range of surface, as our own indigenous animals, which were found as much on the European Continent as in the British Isles; and, though they could not imagine moles and badgers and such animals swimming across the Strait of Dover, yet those found in England were identical with the moles and badgers found on the continent of Europe; and yet, while this identity was observable, as between these islands and the main land, it was not a fact that all parts of the world, separated by a similar surface of water, were similarly alike in their animal population. A strait, separating two of the islands in the Malay Archipelago, though not more than ten miles wide, yet separated two almost entirely distinct populations of animals, animals as unlike as those inhabiting the British Isles and South America, or the British Isles and Australia. And, on the other hand, as a wide separation by sea was not a condition of identity or similarity in the population of the countries, so continuity of land, which might be thought to secure identity, by no means did anything of the kind. There was a greater similarity between the fauna of Great Britain and Japan than between the populations of the North of Africa and those animals inhabiting the other side of the Sahara desert. And thus, when anything like distribution was attempted, there seemed something capricious, something which rendered hopeless the task of reducing things into any kind of order; but if this were so, the phenomena of distribution would be totally unlike anything else in nature. The Professor then dealt with the most important and prominent features of distribution, and was assisted by a map, upon which certain great divisions of the earth were marked out, each of which comprised a well-defined distribution of fauna. Upon the south of this line are found, of the gallinaceous birds, none but the crax or pigeon-footed (for perching); and on the other side of the line none but the gallus or fowl-footed (for walking). Not one of those birds belonging to the southern division was found upon the north side, except a few quail. These birds, both in structure and habit, were characteristic enough to mark three great areas of very different extent, though equally important for the present purpose. The first was the area altogether north of the apparently capricious and irregular line; the second the Australasian area, and then the Austro-Columbian area; and a fourth area might be named in which no gallinaceous birds at all, except a solitary quail, were found—the region of New Zealand. The reason why such great stress was laid upon the gallinaceous birds was because, as a matter of fact, the districts he had thus classified indicated broadly the great distributional provinces of the world. If anyone could be transported successively, first to New Zealand, then to Australia, then to South America, and afterwards to any other part of the Old World, he would find the conditions of animal life in each of those great provinces far more contrasted and different than in any other divisions that could be classified. New Zealand, to begin with, comprised not a single indigenous mammal (one or two had been introduced), except those which had flown or swum to the island; nevertheless, it had a population of a most remarkable character, as the apteryx, a bird without wings, and the dinornis, a bird allied to the emu of Australia, but of gigantic dimensions. There were peculiar reptiles in New Zealand, but no snakes, no frogs, no salamanders. In the next division, Australia, when discovered, not a single ape was found of any description, or any animal allied to it, though on the same parallel of latitude as South Africa, where those animals abound. Bats and other flying creatures were there, but none of those known as insectivora, such as the mole and hedgehog, though it was a country abounding in insects. Not a single hare or rabbit, or animals allied to them, with the exception of a few specimens of a rat or mole like species; and not a single hoofed quadruped, or any of the order of Carnivora. It possessed gnawing creatures, or rodents, and marsupials—those mammals which came the nearest to reptiles in every particular of their organisation, and formed links, so to speak, between the higher mammals and the reptiles. Austro-Columbia, comprising from Cape Horn to the northern limits of Mexico, contained a much more varied assemblage of animals than Australia. A very large proportion of ordinary mammals, including a large quantity of monkeys, though all totally different, in certain respects, from those of the Old World, were met with, one of the differences being the possession of one tooth more than the monkey of the Old World, and another difference in the form of the face. There were numerous bats, but not a single specimen of the insectivorous mammal of any description, with the exception of Cuba, though a marvellous wealth of insect life; no elephants, not a horse in all those vast pampas plains was indigenous, though millions were now running wild; not a single ox nor sheep, nor



any animal allied to them with any degree of closeness. There were a few deer, and a peculiar form of camel; and though no true pig, there was the "peccary." The sloth family were indigenous to South America and nowhere else, and the edentated animals (having no teeth in the front of their jaws) were also found there almost exclusively. And for birds the district was one of the most wonderful in the world; all varieties were found. The great north region might be subdivided. North America contained no marsupials; only two of the edentated creatures; and it did not possess all the higher class of mammals. It was the region of the great insectivora, though by no means rich in insect life. The great area of North America, the Malay Archipelago, and the whole of South Africa contained all the hoofed quadrupeds—the ox, buffalo, sheep, antelope, giraffe, and a prodigious diversity of carnivorous animals—lions, tigers, hyenas, dogs, and wolves; so it was characterised both positively by the presence of enormous diversity of the higher forms of mammals, negatively by the absence of the lowest forms of animals. But though uniform in the general character of its population, the district differed very greatly in different portions of its area. The subdivision, comprising the circum-polar area, was wonderfully uniform, though America, Asia, and Europe presented in most cases nothing more than local varieties. The polar bear, Arctic fox, walrus, and the like were all characteristic of the great Arctic fauna. That subdivision formed by Southern Africa, and which was the next important sub-province, was divided into two portions by a great physical barrier—the Sahara desert. The portion of Africa lying on this side was to all intents and purposes a part of Asia and Europe, its population being substantially that of Southern Europe and Asia; while the ultra-Sahara district was in many respects a most peculiar province. Having described these populations in detail, and also the fauna of the territory extending from England to Japan, which contained identical species of very varied kinds of animals, and which might be regarded as being substantially a mixture of the northern and the southern fauna, the lecturer concisely recapitulated the facts he had set before his audience as showing how there were great natural provinces marked out by the populations which they contained.

#### POLICE.

**THE BONA-FIDE TRAVELLER QUESTION.**—At Clerkenwell, on Tuesday, Mr. James Hollick Davis, the proprietor of the Pegasus Tavern, Green-lanes, Stoke Newington, was summoned, at the instance of the Commissioners of Police, for having unlawfully opened his house for the sale of wine, spirits, beer, and other fermented and distilled liquors, before one in the afternoon of Sunday, Dec. 13, the same not being then and there for the refreshment of travellers, contrary to the statute, &c. Mr. Cooke said that in this case, in which the evidence was taken some days since, it was not denied that the house was open for the sale of ale and refreshments during the hours prohibited by the 11th and 12th of Victoria, cap. 49, but it was averred that the parties in the house were travellers, and therefore entitled to be served. No substantial evidence upon that point was given, either by the complainant or the defendant, and he had nothing to guide him to a conclusion whether the persons in the house were travellers or not. The counsel for the defence contended that the onus of proof was on the complainant, but that question did not arise before him, because the defendant might have put into the box the man who, it was stated was at the door to prevent other than travellers from being admitted. The only piece of evidence that was given was by the complainant, and the constable stated that from nine to one o'clock 168 persons entered the house, and that so many persons were not allowed to be admitted, and that they went away; but he further stated that he was near enough to hear all that was said, and that he did not hear them ask those that were refused whether they were travellers or not. There was plenty of evidence that persons were served with refreshments during prohibited hours. All the facts were clearly established unless he was prepared to do away with the fourteenth section of the 11th and 12th of Victoria, the Summary Convictions Act, which declared that the onus of proof was in the defendant. He could not see his way to yielding to the defendant's counsel and dismissing the case. He should convict, and fine the defendant 1s. and the cost of the summons, 2s., for the offence he had committed; but if there was a case asked for he should grant one, so that the matter might be properly investigated and the question set at rest. Mr. J. Russell said that the defendant would take a case on the point and would take it to the Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Cooke said it would be as well for the parties interested to know that he should find, as a fact, that no evidence was given to satisfy him that the persons drinking were travellers. The counsel for the defendant said that if the Court dismissed the case the police might have a case for the opinion of the Court of Queen's Bench, or to the Court of Exchequer, and not to the Court of Common Pleas. He hoped that the defendant would take a case to either of the former courts instead of to the Court of Common Pleas, and he should consider whether he had not the right to set the case to which court he pleased. Mr. Russell said he had a right to take the case to which court he pleased, and he should therefore take it to the Court of Common Pleas. He had to ask the Court to fix the amount of the surties. Mr. Cooke said he should require one surty in £80, and the defendant himself in a like sum. Having looked over the Act, he said he found that the defendant had a right to take the case to which court he pleased.

**A COUPLE OF PROFESSIONAL BURGLARS CAUGHT.**—Thomas Smith and James Travers, alias Green, were charged before Mr. Tyrwhitt, at Marlborough-street, on Tuesday, with having a quantity of stolen property in their possession. Police-Sergeant Cole, C 23, having received information relative to numerous robberies in the suburbs and at the West-End, went to Vincent-street, Shore-ditch, and found the prisoners in bed. He told them he should take them into custody on suspicion of having committed a robbery at Messrs. Hunt and Roskell's, jewellers, Bond-street, when £500 worth of property was stolen. Having searched the place, the constable brought away

a quantity of property the produce of various robberies. Evidence was then tendered of a burglary at Major Harris's residence, at Upper Clapton, and some articles were produced. Major Harris, of the Royal Engineers, identified a quantity of wearing apparel, a pin, and studs as his property. He said on Dec. 5, on returning home, he found the window over the portico had been forced open, and the house robbed of property to the amount of £110. Police-Sergeant Cole said he had examined the premises, and found marks of a jemmy on a writing-case which corresponded with the jemmy found in the possession of the prisoner. A second charge was then gone into. Mrs. Sophia Harding, of Woodbrooke House, Cricklewood, said, on Dec. 8 her house was entered and a dressing-case, jewel-case, and workbox stolen. The value of the property was about £20, and admission to the house had been gained by forcing open the portico window. The brooch produced was part of the stolen property. Police-Sergeant Cole said he found the brooch in the room occupied by the prisoners, and the marks on the portico window corresponded with the jemmy produced. The third charge was then gone into. Martha Coast, living at Manor House, Camden Town, said the house was entered on Nov. 20, and a quantity of property stolen. Some of the articles produced were part of the stolen property. Mr. David Ullmann, of Manor House, said, on Nov. 20, on going into his bed-room, he found it in great disorder, the drawers and wardrobe having been ransacked. He missed property worth at least £50. He found that the house had been entered by the window over the portico. The fourth case was next taken. Mrs. Ellen Thornhill, of Downe's Park-road, Lower Clapton, said, on Dec. 3 her house was entered from the bed-room window, and a cashbox, containing £22, and a dressing-case were carried off. A dress was also taken from the wardrobe. Inspector Morgan said there were other charges in process of investigation, and he should therefore ask for another remand. Robert Sprake, City detective, proved that Travers was convicted at the Old Bailey on Dec. 12, 1859; and in 1863 sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment by the magistrates of Lambeth; but, it having transpired that he had been previously convicted, he was brought back, sent for trial, convicted, and sentenced to six years' penal servitude, his sentence not being yet expired, although he was now at liberty. Since the prisoners have been in custody the police have ascertained that burglaries have been committed at Clapham, West Ham, Croydon, Hendon, Streatham, Norwood, Cricklewood, Kentish Town, Tottenham, and other of the metropolitan suburbs, in which the prisoners, it is suspected, were concerned. The prisoners were remanded.

**THE SMOKE NUISANCE.**—The master baker of the Islington depot for the manufacture of Dr. Daughlin's patent aerated bread was summoned before the magistrate at Clerkenwell, last Saturday, for using ovens and furnaces not constructed so as to consume their own smoke. It may be stated that when the case was first before the Court the nuisance was admitted, and an adjournment was granted at the defendant's request, so that he might make the required alteration, and that Mr. Sanderson, the Government engineer, might again inspect and report the result to the Court. Mr. Sanderson said that, on July 29 last, in consequence of complaints that were made by the inhabitants of the nuisance occasioned by the smoke from the defendant's chimneys, he went to the premises and made an inspection. He found that the furnaces were not constructed so as to consume their own smoke. At that time fourteen days were requested and granted, so that the required alterations might be made. At the expiration of that time he found that some alterations had been made, but they were not successful; and then four weeks' additional time was asked for, and granted. As the nuisance still continued, the case was brought before Mr. Cooke, and then additional time was given the defendant to make the necessary alterations. He had since made another inspection, and found two of the furnaces in the same state. Some alterations had been made, but they had not been successful. The magistrate asked if there was any difficulty in making bakers' ovens so as to make them to consume their own smoke. Mr. Sanderson said there was none. He could mention several large and small establishments where the smoke was entirely consumed. There were several successful patents at work in the metropolis, and a great saving was effected in the fuel. The defendant said that he thought that five minutes were allowed for the shaft to clear itself. The magistrate said the defendant was mistaken; and, considering this was a very bad case, he should inflict the highest penalty for a first offence—viz., £5 and the costs.

**A HOMICIDAL FAMILY.**—George Lack, seventeen, was charged at Southwark, on Tuesday, with swallowing a quantity of poison, with intent to commit suicide. Sergeant Yallop, 19 M, informed his Worship that about a quarter to eight on Monday evening he was called to a house at Bankside where the prisoner's father resided, and on approaching the spot he met the latter being carried by two men, who told him that he had swallowed poison and cut his throat; also that he had poisoned his son, who was still in the house. Having given instructions to another constable to accompany the father to the hospital, witness entered the house, and found the prisoner lying near the fireplace, unconscious, and smelling strongly of rum and laudanum. The witness instantly conveyed him to Guy's Hospital, where the stomach pump was used, and, as soon as he sufficiently recovered, he removed the prisoner to the station-house. The witness added that, on further examination of the room where he found the prisoner, he perceived a half-pint bottle, which had contained rum. The poison was all extracted from the father's stomach at the hospital, but there were three cuts on the throat, neither of which he understood to be dangerous. Mr. Burcham observed that he thought he remembered that the prisoner's mother had murdered some of her children a short time ago. Sergeant Yallop said that about three years ago last August she murdered two of her children by cutting their throats in bed, and attempted to murder a third child early in the morning. She was tried at the Central Criminal Court, and the jury acquitted her on the ground of insanity. Mr. Burcham said he had some recollection of the

woman. When brought before him at the time she was in a most deplorable state. Her husband also appeared almost distracted at finding his young children with their throats cut. His Worship then asked the prisoner what explanation he had to make. He said that on the previous evening his father brought in some rum, and after mixing some in a cup he handed it to him. As soon as he drank a little he became insensible, and had no recollection of anything that occurred afterwards until he found himself in the hospital. Mr. Burcham thought that it would be better to remand the prisoner for a few days to enable the police to make further inquiries about this melancholy affair.

**MAD DRINK.**—At Southwark, on Tuesday, William Edwin Charlesworth, aged twenty, was charged with attempting to jump out of a second-floor window for the purpose of committing suicide. Mr. William Charlesworth, tobacco and cigar manufacturer, Blackman-street, said the prisoner was his son, and lived in the same house. While witness was sitting in the kitchen on the first floor, about twelve o'clock on the Monday night, his son came home rather the worse for drink and proceeded up to his bed-room. Knowing that he had not received any money from him for a fortnight, he asked him how he obtained the liquor to get so drunk, when his son put himself in a fighting attitude. His mother then came into the room and caught hold of him; but he broke away from her, threw the window up, and got partly out of it. He was pulled back and held down, but he broke away a second time and rushed at the window; and had not assistance been at hand he would have fallen out, and must have been smashed to pieces. The policeman, for better security, took him into custody, but witness had no wish to send him to prison. Mr. Burcham asked the prisoner what he had to say in answer to the charge? He replied that he had been drinking with some friends all the evening, and he must have been mad at the time. Mr. Burcham told him that it was fashionable thirty or forty years ago for respectable persons to make beasts of themselves with drink; but now, fortunately, that fashion had gone out. He then asked the prisoner if he would forbear from drink for the future, and never make such an attempt again. He replied that he was very sorry for what he had done, and he assured his Worship he would for the future refrain from drink. Mr. Burcham, under these circumstances, discharged him.

**DEATH FROM POLICE NEGLECT.**—On Wednesday evening Mr. Humphreys held an inquest in Hackney on the body of a woman whose death was alleged to have been caused by improper treatment while she was a prisoner in the Hackney police station. The woman had attempted to commit suicide by drowning, but was rescued, taken to the station, placed in an ordinary cell, and there died twenty-four hours afterwards. Her husband wished to remove her either to her home, promising to become bail for her appearance, or to the German Hospital, but the police persisted in detaining her in the cell with an insufficient quantity of clothing. A censure on the police was appended to the verdict of the jury.

#### THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, DEC. 25.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—H. BELL, Plumber, tobacconist, T. HOLMES, Transmitter, a chitist.  
**BANKRUPT.**—E. F. and T. S. ALLEN, Waldo, follenagers, London Colney, engine-driver, C. BLACKMORE, Oxford-street, decorator, S. BOOTH, Thame, chemist, A. BRAGG, Twickenham artist, R. BRAGG, Holloway, dealer in building materials, T. BUCK, Peckham, shoe merchant, A. BYRD, Upper Holloway, chemist, F. CHAMBERS, Kensington, merchant, G. D. CLARK, Lambeth-road, explosive-compound manufacturer, T. COOPER, Russell-street, Cavendish-square, account, W. HARTLEY, Leicester, shoemaker, H. CORDING, Shoreditch, tailor, G. DUDLEY, Clerkenwell, chemist, T. EAMES, Battersea, builder, S. ESTCOURT, H. BRUNELL, and J. OX, Gutter-lane, City, woollen ware-merchant, J. FLAXMAN, Hackney-road, cabinet-maker, J. FARR, Dalston, licensee for the sale of Dick's Patent portable fire-engine, G. GABRIELLI, Kensington, portrait-painter, S. B. GOUGH, Archer-villas, Westbourne-grove, plumber, W. GRIFFIN, Chalk-farm, farmer, J. GOSTICK, Kennington-street, Cavendish-square, accountant, W. HARTLEY, Lower Thames-street, J. HYAMS, Spitalfields, greengrocer, E. JAUMENNE, Princes-street, Leicester-square, cigar merchant, C. G. JEFFRIES, Hornsey, builder, C. JONES, Blackheath, W. LARSEN, Oxford Market, A. S. LEAL, New Barnet, G. G. GARDNER, St. Paul's, Bedford-square, shoe-maker, G. H. MARESDAL, Kentish Town, dealer in Russia mats, T. NAPPER, Littlehampton, surgeon, T. NORRIS, is inquest, licensed victualler, J. C. NORTH, Dulwich, builder, G. NOYCE, 1, Long-street, chemist, J. P. LACK, Dorset-street, chemist, A. RAINHOLT, Clerkenwell, wholesale milliner, W. REYNOLDS, Highgate-road, mine proprietor, H. RICE, Brighton, schoolmaster, M. E. SIFLESS, slington, dealer in job goods, W. SMITH, Caterham, plumber, R. STICHLER, E. Borough, refreshment-house, keeper, H. TIPPETT, High Holborn, clerk, W. TURNBULL, Hampton-road, surgeon, J. WHITE, Baywater, boot and shoe maker, T. W. WILEY, Goswell-road, baker, W. WING, Plumstead, carpenter, G. ADAMSON, Dartmouth, brickmaker, G. ANDREW, Wandsworth, T. ARMITAGE, Leicester, article web manufacturer, J. ASHTON, Hull, fishcurer, W. BAKER, Barnham, J. BARKER, Hunslet, J. BARTLETT, Clutterie All Saints, baker, S. BENNETT, Transmitter, provision dealer, S. BLAKE, Monkwearmouth, manufacturer, A. BRAGG, Chard, baker, S. BREWER, Barrow-in-Furness, plumber, E. COLLEY, Wall-sail, chartermaster, A. CRAMPTON, Sunderland, draper, J. CROMPTON, Tylney, provision dealer, S. DAVIS, Kelling-bury, baker, J. DOLSON, Brighton, builder, W. DUCKETT, Liverpool, glassdealer, J. EVANS, Wolverhampton, cornfactor, W. FLEMING, Gorton, is a merchant, S. GOLDBERG, Newcastle-Tyne, tailor, J. GOODIER, Salford, pattern-maker, A. GOSNEY, Houghton-le-Spring, baker, E. GREENWOOD, Birmingham, coal-miner, T. HALL, Caterham, tailor, J. HOLLYWOOD, Liverpool, fruit-dealer, T. HUMPHRIES, Northfield, painter, T. HYAM, Ilminster, ink-keeper, J. JAMES, Upper Stonnall, beerdealer, J. JACKSON, Garsdon, S. WERRY, Alcester, engraver, H. J. VERNON, provision dealer, J. B. JOHNSON, W. A. E. KAY, Bolton, draper, G. LAWTON, Halifax, bookkeeper, H. LEE, Grimsby, shipowner, J. LIGGETT, Nottingham, shoe-maker, D. LONGDON, Ysalyford, grocer, C. S. MACNAIR, Liverpool, bookkeeper, W. MILLER, Plymouth, baker, L. WINT, Hebburn-quay, Durham, grocer, R. G. PARKY, Chester, provision dealer, M. PRICE, Brounsgrove, clothier, S. RHODES, Little B. Iton, joiner, L. SARVANT, Hallux, shoemaker, H. SAUNDREY, St. Ives, grocer, W. S. SCAIFE, Liverpool oil commission agent, S. SHELTON, Colchester, baker, W. SHERMAN, Manchester, commercial traveller, T. SLATER, Hull, rope manufacturer, H. SNEED, Northampton, French polisher, J. STICKLAND, Whitmore Minster, shoemaker, J. TALBOT, Stratford-on-Avon, butcher, J. THOMAS, Liverpool, builder, W. THRIPLERON, Bradford-moor, beerdealer, B. VAUGHAN, Oaken Gats, licensed victualler, C. WALKER, Altrincham, butcher, J. WALKER, York, coaldealer, N. WAPLINGTON, Ironville, labourer, W. WHITE, Jan, Alcester, provision dealer, T. WITTELEIGH, Manchester, butcher, S. YARRINGTON, Kidderminster, horse and carriage manufacturer, W. JEFFREYS, Du ley, umbrella-maker, F. ARMSTRONG, Plumstead, blacksmith.

**TUESDAY, DEC. 29.**  
**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—J. E. WOODS, Crocombe, manufacturer.  
**BANKRUPT.**—J. ALLEN, Ratcliff-avenue, licensed victualler, W. B. BOWEN, Portland-place, butler, F. CHAMBERS, Kensington, merchant, J. COLLINS, Blackfriars, contractor, C. J. CORBITT, Old Kent-road, ladies' bag maker, C. CORDINGLEY, Hammersmith, printer, J. EYMER, Abchurch-lane, Cannon-street, wine-merchant, J. FENLON, Rochester, shipbuilder, J. FRANKS, Ecclestone-street, Liverpool, stable keeper, B. HYAMS, London-road, marine-store dealer, W. C. GIBBS, Westgate, publisher, W. H. HAMMER, East Dulwich, beerdealer, W. C. LIVERMORE, Victoria Park-square, builder, W. A.

PAGE, Cricklewood, commercial traveller, J. PENGILLY, King's-cross, cordialer, J. POTTER, Shoreditch, mortar-stone dealer, J. REVELL, Holloway, picture-dealer, T. SIMPKINS, Sandy, ironmonger, S. SMART, Battersea, carman, J. SPILLER, Ashmore, farmer, B. SOLOMON, Kensington, commission agent, C. TUCK, Finsbury, packing-case maker, C. WALLASTINE, Accrington, overcoater, T. BARRETT, Liverpool, cabinetmaker, J. BLUN-OM, Pottersbury, G. BOWES, Great Gonerby, Joiner, W. BURKE, Liverpool, draper, R. CHAMBERS, Preston, saddler, J. DAVIES, Oswestry, cabinetmaker, J. FIELDING, Manchester, auctioneer, S. GARDNER, Cuddersford, grocer, R. GIBSON, Aintree, master mariner, W. R. HARRISON, Liverpool, J. V. HOOD, Liverpool, bookkeeper, J. HOPPER, sen., and J. HOPPER, jun., Gateshead, provision-dealers, J. HUMPHREYS, Brynbo, provision-dealers, B. JONES, Abergavenny, tailor, T. JONES, Bristol-lane, Brierhill, wheelwright, J. KING, Hemingford Gray, C. LLEWELLYN, Newton Nottage, grocer, H. and C. MORTON, Stanley-lane-end, builders, J. PRAKMAN, Liverpool, metal merchant, T. PLUMPTON, Warrington, watchmaker, J. PRICE, Newport, stone and marble builder, E. PYLLE, Northwood, cordwainer, T. L. RANDALL, Cardiff, painter, D. SMITH, sen., Branton, L. STAGG, Odcombe, baker, T. STILLING, Pitminster, inkkeeper, J. TAYLOR, Walsall, G. D. THOMAS, Telford, J. WESTCOTT, jun., Hall, smelt owner, W. WHEWILL, Accrington, head, C. WHITTEM, Coventry, watchmaker, J. WILLIAMS, Longton, M. WILLIAMS, Olvach, labourer, T. J. BIRD, Liverpool, S. COUCH, SEQUESTERATIONS.—E. CARSWELL, Adressan, baker, A. BOBB, Glasgow, grocer, J. and W. MELVIN, Kilmernock, cabinetmakers, J. FINDLAY, Forres, slater, W. HERD, Dundee, china and waste merchant, A. JAMIESON, Elgin, tailor, W. ORR, I. MEWING, and H. DICKIE, Greenock, sugar refiners, W. FINDLAY, Elgin, slater.

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Elementary Collections to facilitate the study of these interesting branches of Science can be had at 7s. 10s. 15s. 20s. 25s. 30s. each, of J. TENNANT, 140, Strand, London, W.C. Mr. Tennant gives Private Instruction in Mineralogy and Geology.

**CAUTION.—ROBERT WATERS'S QUININE WINE,** guaranteed to contain in each wine-glassful one grain of the finest Sulphate of Quinine.

**IN A CAUSE** lately instituted in the High Court of Chancery by Robert Waters against certain manufacturers of an article called Quinine Wine, which has been sold with a label stating "each wine-glassful guaranteed to contain one grain of the purest Sulphate of Quinine." The respondents admitted on oath, now standing as such statement, that no Sulphate of Quinine is used in the manufacture of their wine.

The guarantee given by Robert Waters with every bottle has earned for his Quinine Wine its world-wide celebrity; and, as the efficacy of the Wine as a tonic depends on the quantity and quality of the sulphate of quinine held in solution, the public are cautioned against spurious imitations, and before misled by the unscrupulous statements of other manufacturers, and to be particular that they purchase none other than Robert Waters's Quinine Wine, in bottles with capsules and labels bearing his trade mark, without which none is genuine.  
WATERS and WILLIAMS,  
2, Martin's-lane, City.

**MOLLER'S COD-LIVER OIL.**  
Purest Norwegian. First Prize at "Paris Exhibition, 1867," out of 37 Competitors, making 5 medals awarded for this celebrated Oil, made from fresh Livers, and not from putrid, as the darker oils. See Lancet, "Medical Times," Dr. Abbott's Bulletin, Dr. Hasall, Dr. Croghan, Dr. W. Boeck, of Christiania; Dr. de Broche, physician to the King of Sweden, &c. Sold in capsules, bottles, half-pints, at 2s. 3d.; pints, 4s. each. Circulars and Testimonials of Peter Möller, 59, Oxford-street, London, W. Contractor to the North London Consumption Hospital.

**PURE NEWFOUNDLAND COD-LIVER**  
OIL.—Recent Importation.—Analysed and reported on by Dr. ROOPE, M.D., L.R.C.P., F.R.S., &c.—"Mr. L. I have much pleasure in bearing testimony to the purity and excellence of the Cod-Liver Oil imported by you. I have repeatedly prescribed and tested the same, which appears purely of hepatic origin—a point of great weight with regard to its therapeutic value—indeed, I may add that it is as genuine and efficient a Fish Oil as the profession can employ."—HENRY SCOTT, M.D., 11, Upper Woburn-place, Russell sq.—To Mr. Thomas Keating, 79, St. Paul's-churchyard, Half-pints, 1s. 6d.; Pints, 2s. 6d.; Quarts, 4s. 6d., Imperial Measure.

**NO MORE MEDICINE.**—Dyspepsia, Phthisis, Constipation, all Stomachic, Nervous, and Liver Complaints cured, without medicine, inconvenience, or expense, by DU BARRY'S delicious RHEUMATISM ABOLISHING FOOD. 70,000 cures, including that of his Holiness the Pope, of which an extract is sent gratis on demand. 1lb. 2s. 9d.; 2lb. 4s. 6d.; 4lb. 8s. 6d.; 8lb. 16s. 6d.; 16lb. 32s. 6d.; 32lb. 64s. 6d.; 64lb. 128s. 6d.; 128lb. 256s. 6d.; 256lb. 512s. 6d.; 512lb. 1024s. 6d.; 1024lb. 2048s. 6d.; 2048lb. 4096s. 6d.; 4096lb. 8192s. 6d.; 8192lb. 16384s. 6d.; 16384lb. 32768s. 6d.; 32768lb. 65536s. 6d.; 65536lb. 131072s. 6d.; 131072lb. 262144s. 6d.; 262144lb. 524288s. 6d.; 524288lb. 1048576s. 6d.; 1048576lb. 2097152s. 6d.; 2097152lb. 4194304s. 6d.; 4194304lb. 8388608s. 6d.; 8388608lb. 16777216s. 6d.; 16777216lb. 33554432s. 6d.; 33554432lb. 67108864s. 6d.; 67108864lb. 134217728s. 6d.; 134217728lb. 268435456s. 6d.; 268435456lb. 536870912s. 6d.; 536870912lb. 1073741824s. 6d.; 1073741824lb. 2147483648s. 6d.; 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